

Hafa Adai!

'Retaining graduates could stabilize workforce' **PAGE 5**

NMI gets \$4.4M more in FEMA funds for Yutu recovery. **PAGE 9**

75¢

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A backlog of 3 to 24 mos.

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

The CNMI Board of Nursing reported yesterday that it is currently three to four months behind in processing applications for nursing licenses, mainly because of a perennial lack of

staff and an influx of applications that happens per year.

The board has already hired three new staff to resolve the delay and they are hoping to catch up with application processing by the end of November.

See **BACKLOG** on **Page 4**

OAG: Reselling power is illegal

» **Senator also eyes legislation for clarity and punishment**

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

It is illegal to resell power.

That's according to Attorney General Edward Manibusan yesterday, citing the NMI Administrative Code.

This comes soon after it came to light that some landlords charge their tenants for power at a rate much higher than the one set by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

See **OAG** on **Page 4**

AOC: Saipan airport 'looks unprofessional'

» **Concerns include leaking roof, birds on runway, rats, stray cats and dogs, among others**

By FERGIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

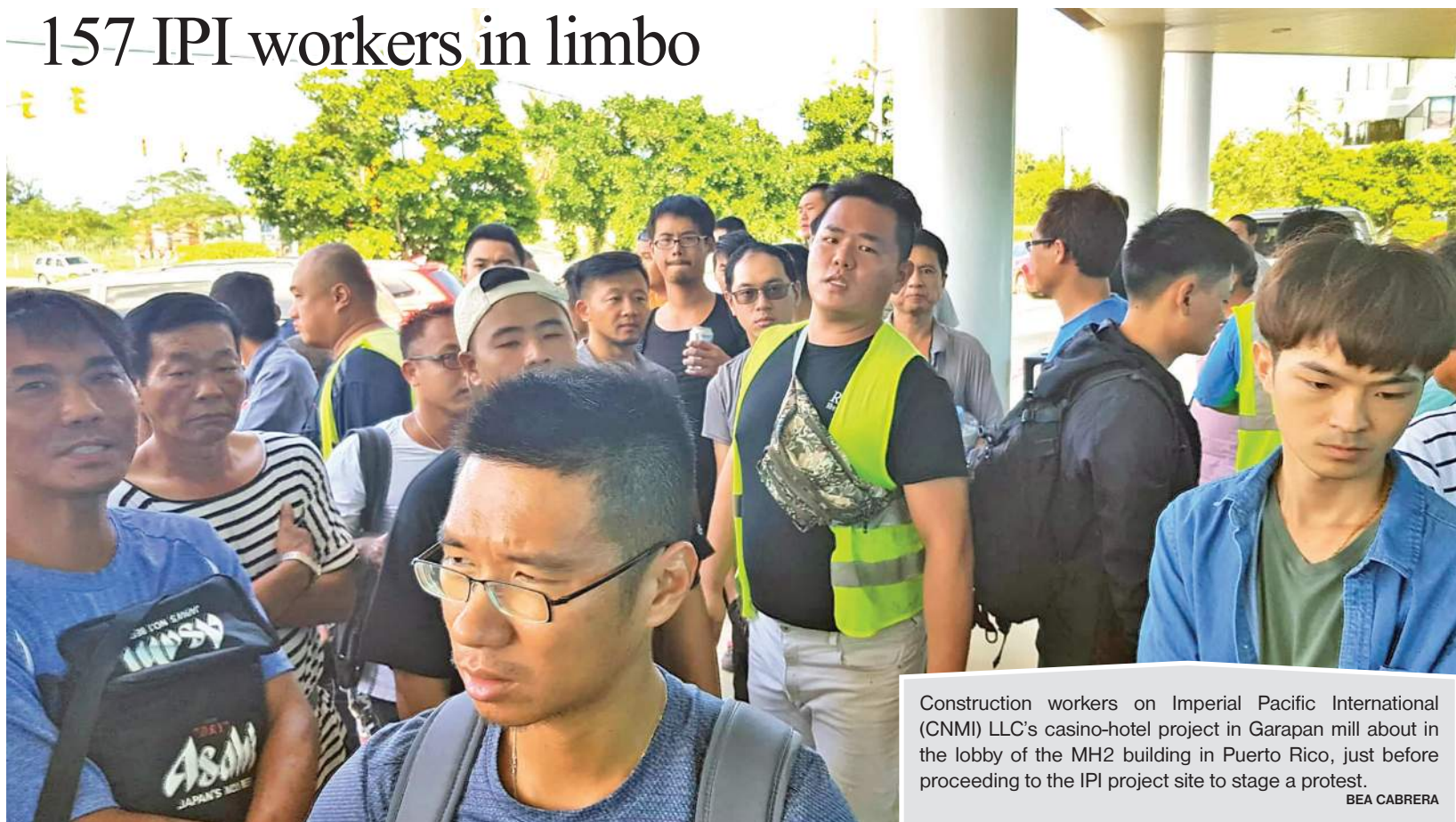
Citing issues such as a leaking roof, birds on the runway, and the presence of rats, stray cats, and dogs in the premises, the Airport Operators Committee has three words for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport: "It looks unprofessional."



Kretzers

See **AOC** on **Page 4**

157 IPI workers in limbo



Construction workers on Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's casino-hotel project in Garapan mill about in the lobby of the MH2 building in Puerto Rico, just before proceeding to the IPI project site to stage a protest.

BEA CABRERA

By MARC A. VENUS
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REPORTER

Despite H2B visas that don't expire until January 2020, a group of 157 Taiwanese con-

struction workers are now claiming that their employer, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC, is pressuring them to resign from their jobs, and they have no idea why.

Dismayed workers trooped to the U.S. Department of Labor office yesterday at the Marina Heights Business Park in Puerto Rico to plead their case, then walked over

to the Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel to stage a protest in front of the casino.

In an interview with *Saipan Tribune*, one of the workers, who asked not to be named,

said that none of them have been paid their last paycheck yet, and that they intend to continue to protest until IPI provides them answers and

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INSIDE



LOCAL

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s first Trunk-or-Treat event was a runaway success.

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LOCAL

The 4th Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament is this Sunday.

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WORLD

Drug cartel gunmen kill six children and three women—all U.S. citizens—in an ambush.

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Local

Labor suit deemed frivolous

A man's labor case against a restaurant in Garapan has been deemed both frivolous and devoid of merit by the CNMI Department of Labor's administrative hearing office.

Zaji O. Zajradhara had complained that Nippon General Trading Corp. dba Country House Restaurant, represented by lawyer Mark Scoggins and general manager Katsuko Kato, had rejected his job application with the company in

retaliation for a previous legal issue between them.

The CNMI Department of Labor Administrative Hearing Office deemed Zajradhara's complaint frivolous and devoid of merit and granted the company's motion for sanctions and be awarded attorney fees.

Zajradhara filed the complaint on April 29, 2019, on the grounds of a violation of the CNMI employment preference statute and retaliation.

He alleged that he was entitled to damages because he was not hired and was being retaliated for filing both local and federal claims against the company.

On May 29, 2019, Zajradhara filed additional information stating that he was qualified for the waiter position he applied for in January 2019; was never interviewed; and alleged that the company instead hired a foreign worker.

On June 12, 2019, the company claimed that Zajradhara was not legitimately looking for a job; files only to harass, coerce, and extort monetary settlement; has fraudulent claims; has failed to mitigate damages; and fails to state a claim because a foreign worker was not hired for the position.

Zajradhara said he saw the job position in January 2019 at the CNMI Department of Labor website. He said he applied for the position believing that he was qualified since he had previous wait staff experience and

was also a U.S. citizen. He said he did not follow up to see when the company would interview him due to previous legal issues with the company. He said he was never called for interview and that, based on information and belief, he alleged that the company hired a foreign worker for the position since the job vacancy announcement stated it was for a renewal.

The company argued that the company rejected Zajradhara's application with just cause. The company noted that Zajradhara submitted a resume with inaccuracies and misrepresentations, giving rise to concerns about his honesty and integrity. The company further noted that the bar and a school that Zajradhara

claimed to have worked for was an apartment building.

Zajradhara previously also litigated this issue, also with the same company in Labor Case 17-018, which concluded March 19, 2019. On appeal, the CNMI secretary of Labor found that the dismissal was appropriate and just cause for his rejection existed.

Further, the company noted that they were unable to hire a foreign worker due to the new requirements under federal regulations disallowed them to re-advertise the position until certain federal requirements were met. As a result, the company did not hire a foreign worker with respect to the associated JVA. *(Erwin Encinares)*

'Club 200 fundraiser is a way to help NMI families'

With some people still living in tents or in homes that have yet to be fully repaired, the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter is making sure that they serve as a "bridge of assistance" to these families, especially during times when CNMI is hit by strong storms.

"A lot of people are still living in homes that haven't been fully repaired so when we do get a strong storm, particularly heavy rain, it is really impacting those families right there," said ARC-NMI Chapter executive director John Hirsh.

"If we can provide just a little bit of help, bridge assistance for those families, then we're going to do it," he added.

To maintain a strong presence in the CNMI, Red Cross counts on fundraising events, such as the Club 200 fundraiser that is happening this Saturday, Nov. 9, from 6pm to 10pm, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan.

"Hopefully, we will be able to meet our fundraising goals. It really allows us to have a strong Red Cross office here, which, in turn, can help our people when they really need it, like they did during Yutu, during [Typhoon] Soudelor," Hirsh said.

And American Red Cross assistance is not just for catastrophic typhoons. The group

was also able to help in the wake of two typhoons, Hagibis and Bualoi, that hit the islands last month.

"Hagibis caused a little bit of damage, the winds were a little bit strong, but then the second storm that came through wasn't as bad," said Hirsh. "We were able to help a handful of families that needed it, mostly on Saipan, but there were a couple of families over at Tinian that we helped as well."

Aside from enjoying a night of dancing, Club 200 participants would also have a chance to win prizes, including a 2019 Toyota RAV4LE, roundtrip United Airlines tickets to the U.S., roundtrip tickets on Skymark to Japan, and a roundtrip ticket from Asiana Airlines to anywhere in the world where the airline flies.

This year's Club 200, themed "Latin Nights," celebrates the diversity of all the countries in Latin America. There will be a salsa and costume contests, as well as other fun activities.

Tickets are \$100 for general admission and \$150 for VIP tickets, and are available at all Joeten locations, Herman's Bakery, AK Toyota, or call the chapter at 234-3459 for a list of sellers near you. *(Iva Maurin)*

American Red Cross

Club 200 Latin Nights

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS activities

Marianas High School will be having its first semester Mid-Progress Open House on Thursday, Nov. 14, 2019, from 4pm to 6pm at the new cafeteria. A Parents Teachers Students Association meeting will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2019, 6pm at the new cafeteria. *(PR)*

MVA membership meeting on Thursday

The Marianas Visitors Authority will hold its semi-general membership meeting on Nov. 14, 2019, at the Royal Taga Ballroom of the Saipan World Resort at 10am. Registration will begin at 9:30am. For more information, contact communityprojects@mymarianas.com or call (670) 664-3200. *(MVA)*

Four elected to Chamber board

By **MARC A. VENUS**
marc_venus@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce elected four board members yesterday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan ballroom. They are Alex Sablan, Glen Hunter, Michael Johnson, and Velma Palacios. They will have two-year terms.

Sablan, who is vice president of Corporate Business Development at TanHoldings, is no stranger to the Chamber as he has been a member for over 27 years with over 20 being with the board. "I would like to thank TanHoldings and Jerry Tan for allowing me to have the opportunity to work with the board," Sablan said.

He intends to work on the ongoing labor issues in the CNMI, as they work with U.S. Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) on provisions to the CNMI Workforce Act. "The current law requires individuals to touch back into their home country for 30 days, and then you can start the process, but as well all may know, 95% of our CW workers' papers expire on Sept. 30 every year," he said. This would only allow employers to begin the renewal process in April, and this will burden businesses as

they will not be able to complete the process in due time, so he proposes to create a provision to adjust the timeframe for renewals.

Another matter Sablan intends to work with the board is the Prevailing Wage Survey and Determination. "We saw a big adjustment in wages through the Prevailing Wages, and we will discuss with Congressman Kilili about the issues that our businesses are facing," he said.

Hunter, who owns three businesses (The Shack, The Airstream, and Go Hydro), looks forward to working with the board as a representative of small businesses. He also hopes to provide insight on the issues that small businesses in the CNMI are facing and initiatives that will lead to sustainable development. "I am very humbled to be given the opportunity to work with the [Chamber] board and I look forward to working with the newly-elected directors," Hunter said.

Johnson is the managing partner of Deloitte on Saipan and has been a Chamber member for 29 years, with 15 being with the board. He is a certified public accountant, a member of the American Institute of Certified Public

Accountants, the CNMI Society of Certified Public Accountants, initial chair of the CNMI Board of Accountancy, current president of the CNMI Chapter of the Association of

Government Accountants, and current treasurer of the Hotel Association of the NMI. Johnson plans to continue ensuring the accountability and fiscal responsibility of the Chamber.

Palacios is the director of Network of Operations & Engineering at IT&E. Pala-

cios served the last four terms as president of the board and has over 10 years' experience with the Chamber. She intends to continue the public/private partnership with respect to the CNMI's workforce issues, infrastructure, and other ways to ensure a sustainable develop-

ment to support the economy.

Chamber executive director Maxine Laszlo confirmed that the newly-elected directors will be designated to committees in December. They will be inducted at the Chamber's Business Person of the Year Gala on Jan. 25, 2020.

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AOC

From Page 1

Speaking at the Commonwealth Ports Authority board's airport facilities committee meeting last Friday, AOC chair Aurelia Alepuyo Kretzers brought up three categories of concerns—operations and maintenance, image, and future planning of the airport.

Kretzers said the Airport Operators Committee wants a more professional image and the convenience of the traveling public and employees at the airport.

The AOC is composed of tenants and stakeholders at the airport such as the Marianas Visitors Authority, Customs and Border Protection, Quarantine, ground handlers, carriers, and others.

Kretzers, representing POI Aviation, which represents eight out of nine carriers at the airport, said they are aware that their concerns would require time and that they are awaiting CPA actions.

Barrie C. Toves, who chairs the CPA board's airport facilities committee, said the concerns that the AOC raised are the things that CPA is addressing now.

Toves said his committee and the board are actually focused on building a new terminal building, instead of doing patchwork repairs on the existing old building.

He said that CPA is now try-



Saipan Tribune spots two skinny dogs, possibly strays, roaming in the premises of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport yesterday afternoon.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ing to find a way to realize its goal of building a new terminal and sought the understanding and patience of operators and stakeholders at the airport.

Toves said Kretzers will get answers about CPA's action plan on the AOC's concerns at the next CPA board's airport facilities committee meeting.

The CPA board has started public discussions on CPA's plan to build a new \$300-million terminal to replace or expand the existing Saipan international airport that CPA board chair Kimberlyn King-Hinds has described as "outdated and deteriorating."

In a separate interview yesterday, Kretzers said that what they need is for CPA to fix some of the issues that are just not acceptable, those is-

sues that CPA should address immediately, such as those that affect safety for passengers, tenants, and workers at the airport.

Kretzers said they understand the extent of damage that Super Typhoon Yutu wrought on the airport in October 2018, but since the facility is open and operating, the concerns need to be addressed.

During Friday's meeting, Kretzers said in the image category alone, the traveling public arriving on Saipan from other destinations come with the expectation of coming to a "resort destination" but that's not what meets them at the airport.

"My concern is the appearance of the airport. It's very unprofessional," she said in an

interview.

As an example, Kretzer cited the area where passengers are standing in line on a ramp to clear the Transportation Security Administration.

"It's steep. It's a ramp. It should be normal, like in any other airports," she said.

She noted that there's lack of electronic arrival and departure boards at the departure lobby, arrival at Customs area, and at the gate podium.

On operations and maintenance category, she said the building's roof is leaking. Kretzers cited the TSA area, where passengers are being screened. When it rains, TSA needs to shut down part of the area because it's leaking directly.

Kretzers said CPA also needs to replace or repair the announcement system as it is an old one and always breaks down.

Kretzers said they know that three passenger loading bridges have been ordered but they want to know when the other three will be ordered.

When the airport's air-conditioning is down, she said it takes awhile to fix due to lack of available parts. "At least have some parts on standby," Kretzers said.

She said there is a need to have anti-skid mats on all doors at the arrival and departure gates on the first floor. "If you open the door and it's raining, that rain goes through the door and it's very slippery," she said.

verify the applicants' credentials through college courses and high school courses. High school courses were added specifically for foreign students, due to some countries not implementing the K-12 education system.

The board has announced that all of its applications are available on its website at nmibon.info and you may contact their offices at (670) 233-2263 for more information about Board of Nursing licenses. They are open from Monday to Friday at 7:30am to 4:30pm.

last Tuesday instructing them to resign from their jobs or there would be consequences if they were not to sign the resignation letter. Yesterday, the workers went to the U.S. Department of Labor to complain and were told that USDOL has already contacted IPI about the matter.

Another worker said that they have contacted an attorney to see the possibility of filing a lawsuit against IPI to get a severance package for the lost work hours.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from IPI about this but it gave no answers as of press time.

Kretzers said there is a need to install canopies at all doors at arrival/departure.

She said there should be a backup plan for the incinerator as it is out of service at times. Kretzers said the trash from the airplanes have to be incinerated but there are times when the incinerator is out of service.

She said some of the carriers put their trash back in their plane's belly or keep them in sealed containers and wait for the following day when the incinerator is back and running.

Kretzers also pointed out that the runway rehabilitation has been going on for more than five years. She asked CPA board when this will be completed as this limits the ability of carriers to schedule flights.

She said the runway rehabilitation limits carriers' operation because the runway is usually closed from 5pm to midnight when work is ongoing.

She said there is a need for landing instruments and

Precision Approach Path Indicators, the lights that guide the airplane in landing. The Saipan airport has PAPI lights but "it's been down for so many years."

She said animals on the runway—birds, stray cats, rats, and stray dogs—should be controlled. Kretzers said that bird strikes—when birds get sucked into the plane's engine—is dangerous. She said rats are all over the ground or premises at the airport.

Although some stray dogs and cats are now being controlled, there are still such animals in the premises, she said.

Even something as simple as the location of trash bins is also an issue. Kretzers said the trash bin needs to be moved to other locations. She said a trash bin is located in the restricted area and that it should be transferred to any location where it is not visible to visitors.

Kretzers pointed out that an initial CPA's master plan for the airport is already available and they hope CPA moves in that direction.

a much higher rate than CUC.

Reports noted that some tenants are paying over 40 cents to nearly 60 cents per kWh while CUC charges at most \$0.1580 for 1,200 kWh levels and over.

"I am going to introduce legislation to prohibit this and restrict it, because [existing law and policies] are very specific that landlords cannot impose additional fees other than what CUC charges the customers," Santos said.

Similar to what Rep. Edwin K. Propst (Ind-Saipan) stated earlier, Santos wants to impose fines and possibly jail time for violators. She wants to go as far as revoking the business license of a landlord who is doing this.

"The price of electrical power is a regulated service by the Public Utilities Commission. Allowing persons [such as landlords] to purchase electrical power and resell it to segments of the general public at a price greater than the regulated price defeats the purpose of Public Utilities Commission protection of the public from unreasonable charges," Propst noted in a social media post.

"Any purchaser of electrical power from a public utility should be prohibited from reselling the power for a rate in excess of the rate approved by the Public Utilities Commission or paid by the purchaser, or they should have their rates approved by the Public Utilities Commission," he added.

"We have tenants paying 42 cents to 60 cents a kilowatt hour. If this is not criminal, then it should be," he noted in a separate social media post.

BACKLOG

From Page 1

ber, according to office manager Carol Fleming.

She said her office has a set a one-month deadline to complete the processing.

In a meeting of the board yesterday at the CDA Building in San Jose, Fleming said the board's office received over 900 applications for licensure in 2017-2018 and the number of applications doubled the next year.

"We are overloaded and

overwhelmed, but I am glad that the board approved to hire the new staff to help," Fleming said.

She clarified that the office staff only processes applications and that board decides on approvals to provide licenses.

The board handles certifications and renewal for nurses, nursing assistants, and hospital technicians for the CNMI. The office also handles testing for the National Council Licensure Examination, as passing the exam is a requirement to become a nurse in the CNMI

and the U.S. mainland. The board also administers the Commission on Graduates of Foreign Nursing Schools certification program.

Board chair Roca Sablan said that the Board of Nursing has been trying its best to approve as many licenses as possible and will be entertaining a total of 1,500 licensees soon.

"We can only approve as [many] as we can, since we only meet [on] a quarterly basis," Sablan told Saipan Tribune. One thing that the board is trying to prevent is fraud. She said they try to

said they are being forced not to report for work.

One worker claims that he has stopped working for over two weeks and has not been paid.

"We were told by IPI's lawyer that workers who were under three-month contracts were going to be terminated, but we ended up joining them," another worker said.

He described the work at the construction site as difficult as workers' workloads have been doubled and others work overtime hours, while not being paid overtime wages, and were required to offset hours in order to meet the regular hour period.

There is also a claim that workers with certain specialties such as electrical and plumbing are being tasked to assist in other fields that are not their expertise.

In a contract shown Saipan Tribune, it states that they are to be provided housing, but the workers are now saying they are being forced to find their own housing around the island. Or they are being crammed into single housing units.

"We are being treated unfairly," a worker said.

A representative of the protesting workers, with the assistance of a translator, said that they received a letter from IPI

IPI

From Page 1

compensation for this matter.

"Once IPI began hiring the new Mongolian workers, we were basically expendable to them and they decided to remove us with no cause," one worker who didn't want to be identified said through a translator.

Saipan Tribune learned that the workers have been employed by IPI for about a year and a half, and their H2B visas will expire by the end of January 2020. The workers have not been terminated, but they

Bautista: Retaining graduates could stabilize workforce

By IVA MAURIN
iva_maurin@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI needs more workers, and retaining its new graduates could help stabilize the local workforce. That reflects the thrust of the Torres administration, according to press secretary Kevin Bau-

tista, who said that convincing fresh graduates to remain in the CNMI and find work here is of paramount importance.

Speaking in yesterday's Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday, Bautista said that attracting students to return to the islands is one thing, but

the retention of graduates is more important to the administration.

"By retaining them, we have to have the opportunity for stability, both within our workforce and within our institutions—government, business, media, you name it, within our society," said Bautista in a later interview with reporters.

The 2019 Citizen Centric Report released by the Department of Labor reveals that most of the more than 36,000 job openings in the CNMI in fiscal year 2019 will remain

unfilled, not only due to the islands' remote location but also because of its small workforce-ready population.

The report also sees as an "unfortunate dilemma" the situation of individuals, some with college degrees, who are leaving the islands to seek better opportunities elsewhere.

Bautista said the government wants to focus on making sure that scholars from the U.S. mainland, and students who graduated from the Northern Marianas College, have opportunities to enter a

CNMI workforce that is both competitive and viable, and that would allow them to be retained within the workforce.

The intention is to incentivize a lot of the local students at NMC or, for those in the U.S. mainland, to come back home and serve.

"I myself, I am a CNMI Scholarship recipient, I'm a [Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance program] recipient," Bautista said. "One of the biggest things for me was being able to fulfill that duty to give back to the community in a way that I can, having the privilege [now] of working in the Governor's Office."

In college, Bautista interned in Washington, D.C. for a federal agency and for a non-government organization, but had to come back to the islands to fulfill his obligations as a scholar.

Every year, until fiscal year 2030, the allowable cap of 13,000 non-immigrant, foreign workers will continue to decrease.

This reduction of more than half of the CNMI's working population, according to the Citizen Centric report, will more or less cripple the economy, reason why alternative workforce measures are now being scrutinized by CNMI Labor.

Erin Toola is newest AAG

The Office of the Attorney General announced yesterday the addition of its newest assistant attorney general, Erin Toolan, who was sworn in on Thursday, Oct. 31.

Chief Justice Alexandro C. Castro swore in Toolan, who will be working in the OAG's Criminal Division.

"We are very excited to add Ms. Toolan to the staff of prosecutors," said chief prosecutor John Bradley. "She will begin in the Traffic Court, where she can get experience in the local procedures for handling criminal cases. But I'm confident she will soon be assigned more serious misdemeanor and felony cases."

Toolan previously volunteered in the U.S. Peace Corps, serving in Benin, West

Africa from July 2009 to August 2011. As a volunteer, she developed and managed a national summer girls' empowerment camp. She also worked in French Guiana for several months, teaching an English class. She is fluent in French.



Toola

"I look forward to serving the community and advocating for survivors during my time in the CNMI," said Toolan.

Toolan graduated from Baylor Law School in Texas in 2015. She has worked for three years as an assistant district attorney in two Texas counties, handling misdemeanor and felony cases in trial courts. She has special experience working with victims in domestic violence and sexual assault cases. (PR)

Open auditions for FOA production

There will be a second round of auditions this Thursday Nov. 7, starting at 6pm, and on Saturday, Nov. 9, between 11am and 2pm, at Marianas High School, Room C203 for the Friends of the Arts' upcoming Christmas show, *The*

Miracle on 34th Street.

Both adults and young actors are needed for this Dec. 26-29 production. Rehearsals will start soon after the cast is selected.

The public is invited to try out for a role. (PR)

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CUC Trunk-or-Treat draws crowd

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s first ever Trunk-or-Treat event last Oct. 31 at the Joeten Dandan parking lot drew so many participants that CUC managed to give away over 50 bags of candies and still had to stop by the store to get some more.

The event, which began at 5pm and ended at 7pm, featured 12 vehicles that displayed their decorated trunks.

There was also one informational booth that offered information on typhoons tips,

CUC utility rates, job vacancy announcements, etc. Candies were also handed out at this tent.

The participants and their themes included: the Power Generation (no theme, decorated vehicle); Water Division (Under the Sea); Sewer Division (Ninja Turtles); Billing (Book of Life); CUC executive director Gary Camacho and his family (Prison Break); CUC deputy executive director William Gilmore (Mummy); the administrative

tent, which was an information booth; Chief of Admin. Bettina Terlaje and her family (Black Cats); Billing and Collections (Holy Cemetery); Customer Service/Call Center (The Purge); Water/Wastewater Engineering (Dawn of the Dead); Chief Financial Officer's Section (Wicked Witch of the South); and Power Division (Scooby Doo)

The event was so successful that CUC is looking forward to doing more next year, possibly a haunted house. **(PR)**



NMC now accepting Framingham applications

The Northern Marianas College is now accepting applications for a master of education degree with a concentration in International Teaching from Framingham State University.

Framingham State University, in partnership with International Education Programs Inc., a non-profit education organization in Massachusetts, has been offering graduate degree programs abroad for

almost 30 years now.

This master's degree has been offered at NMC for 18 years, with more than 300 educators graduating from the program. The current cohort of educators to undertake this degree program will be finishing their M.Ed. program in December 2019.

Framingham's master of education degree with a concentration in International Teaching

is a special program that was developed for teachers working in American and international schools abroad. The program consists of nine four-credit graduate courses in education (36 semester hours overall), and the successful completion of a comprehensive portfolio.

The curriculum was specifically designed to meet the needs of a diverse teacher population, addressing major education topics and issues relevant to all instructional levels. The courses provide a background in educational foundations and philosophy, instructional strategies, curriculum design, research, and the teaching of English as a second language. These on-site graduate programs provide affordable, accredited advanced degrees for educators.

The courses are held in a hybrid format with graduate faculty from Framingham State University traveling to Saipan to teach in the classroom in a face-to-face format. School superintendents, principals, special education directors, and school counselors are among the very experienced cadre of instructors utilized in these specialized courses. Framingham State University is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

The new cohort for the master of education degree

program will begin in the spring semester of 2020. Three courses are offered each semester to meet the Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance guidelines for aid.

More information on the admissions process may be obtained by contacting the NMC Community Development Institute at 237-6802/6810 or emailing CDI program manager Les Ogumoro-Uludong at les.ogumoro@marianas.edu. Seating is limited for this upcoming cohort, so those interested are advised to register now. **(PR)**



The Northern Marianas College is now accepting applications for Framingham State University's master of education degree program. In the photo are 2018 Framingham State University graduates Le'ah Murphy, left, and Bonny Cruz. **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

CWA to host Fun-Raise-Her

The CNMI Women's Association is inviting everyone to its inaugural "Fun-Raise-Her" Dinner on Nov. 22, 6-10pm, at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan in Garapan to help further CWA's work that help fund programs and services that serve girls and women.

"It will be an evening of fun, celebration and inspiration like no other," said CWA administrator Felicidad T. Ogumoro. "The fundraising dinner is dedicated to celebrating women, in addition to recognizing the ongoing work CWA carries out to support women in our community, and help raise much needed funds for them."

The theme of the night is building resilience among girls and women so they could grow and fully bloom into the strong,

confident, empowered, and resilient individuals that they are.

"We invite the community to journey with us and share in the joy of what is currently happening to advance our girls and women and look ahead to a brighter future," Ogumoro added.

CWA provides education and training opportunities, mentorship, advocacy, and information and referral services for women.

Proceeds from the first "Fun-Raise-Her" will support CWA's operations and programs, services, and activities.

Tickets are priced at \$75 per person and can be purchased by calling 233-8978/9411, emailing cwa.fogumoro@gmail.com, or visiting the CWA Office (Building #1223) on Capital Hill. **(Iva Maurin)**

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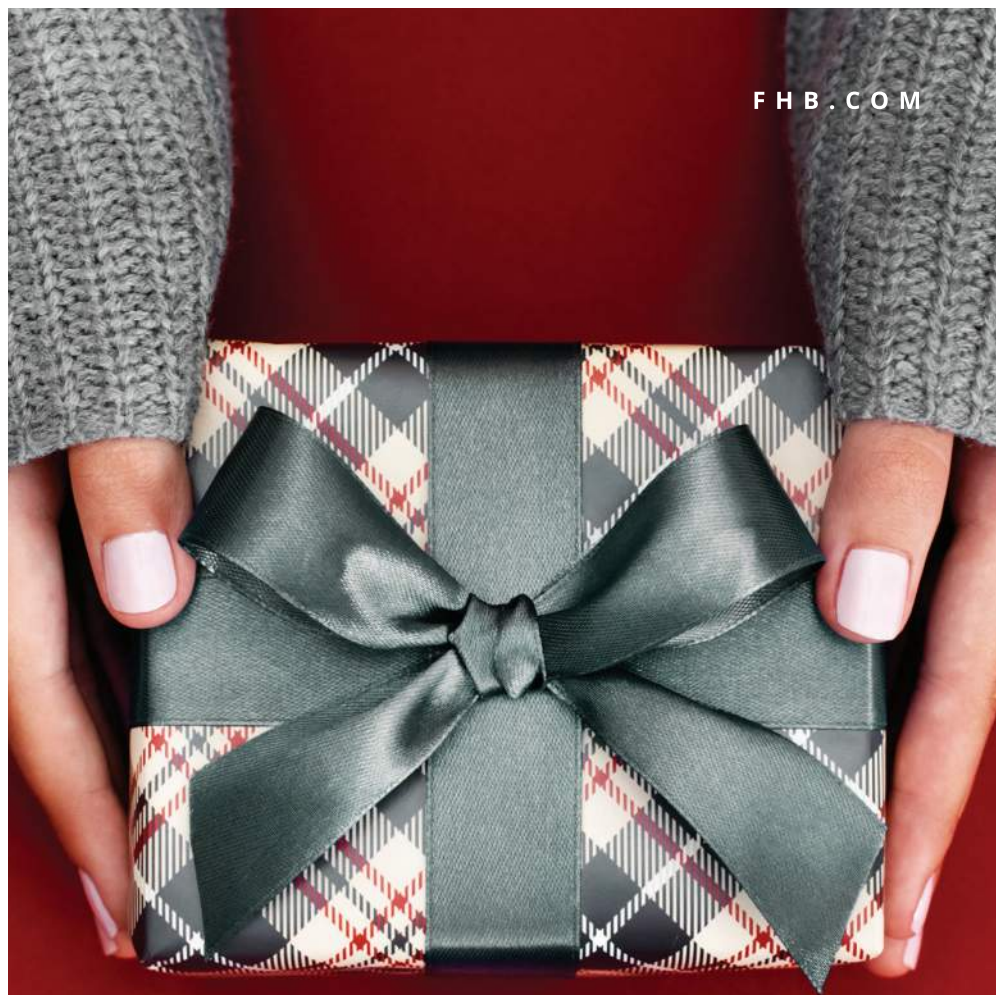
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Last day to register for JKPL golf tourney fundraiser today

The 4th Annual Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library Golf Tournament fundraiser is happening this Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, at the west course of the Laolao Bay Golf & Resort.

Game format is Low Gross and Double Peoria, 2-Person Scramble (Men and Women).

The cost to participate is \$200 entry per team.

The tournament promises great hole-in-one, monetary prizes, raffle prizes, and

awesome fun.

A hundred percent of the proceeds from the tournament will support the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and its branch library's resource and

collection development, circulation materials, and library programs.

Sponsorship and entry forms are available at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and the Laolao Bay Golf Course.

Cash or check are accepted at the JKPL; make checks payable to "Friends of the JKPL."

Credit card or cash is accepted at the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort. Last day to register is today, Nov. 7, 2019,

at 5pm. Visit the Facebook page, @joetenkiyupubliclibrary, and website, www.cnmlib.org, or contact the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library at 235-7315/6 for more information. (PR)



Atkins Kroll Saipan has signed on as a diamond sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Nov. 10, 2019, with a donation of a 2020 Toyota Corolla LE valued at \$24,499 as a hole-in-one prize at Hole No. 3.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Bank of Saipan has committed to be a silver sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser this Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, by donating \$750 in cash prizes. Bank of Saipan is Saipan's oldest locally chartered bank, and has been in operation since 1979.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



JEM Co. Ltd.—which does business as Chalan Kiya Mobil gas station and Kagman CMG Gas SS & Mart—has signed on as a silver sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament fundraiser this Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019. JEM Co. is donating \$300 worth of gas vouchers and \$500 in cash prizes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



J.C. Tenorio Enterprises is a diamond sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament on Nov. 10. Joeten has donated hundreds of eco-bags complete with towels, golf hats, fans, pens, and more for the golf players! Joeten generously donated awesome raffle prizes galore such as barbecue grills, coffee makers, box fans, camping chairs, and toasters.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



KZMI-FM 103.9 is a platinum sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser this Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019. KZMI-FM 103.9 is donating more than \$2,000 worth of radio advertisements and cash prizes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Marianas Pacific Distributors, Inc., or Marpac, has signed on as a gold sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament on Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019. Marpac will be serving samplers and drinks on game day, and has donated many goodie bag add-ons for golf players and raffle prizes, including an exclusive, limited edition Taylor golf bag and a premier Michelob Ultra sports bag for the raffle (value of \$350).

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc. has committed to being a diamond sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser this Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, by donating \$5,000 cash as a hole-in-one prize for Hole No. 7, as well as \$500 for other prizes.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Sorensen Media Group has signed on as a diamond sponsor of the Friends of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's 4th Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Nov. 10. Tune in to Power 99 FM as they play the CNMI's hottest music, and catch the latest happenings on island.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMI gets \$4.4M more in FEMA funds for Yutu recovery

The Federal Emergency Management Agency announced yesterday more than \$4.4 million in additional disaster grants for the CNMI to support ongoing Super Typhoon Yutu recovery. The total grant amount is \$4.9 million, with the FEMA share of \$4.4 million.

“These projects were among our top priorities and are a product of close collaboration between our office, FEMA, and the respective CNMI departments and agencies. We will continue to prioritize new infrastructure built to last and strengthening existing ones against future disasters,” said

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres

The award will assist nine eligible applicants with reimbursement for eligible costs of debris removal, emergency protective measures, building replacements, replacement of damaged building contents and permanent repairs.

The additional funding con-

sists of:

■ \$1,598,940, in federal funding to the CNMI Public School System to replace the Da'ok Academy High School building.

■ \$1,442,304 in federal funding to the Commonwealth Ports Authority for debris removal and for permanent

repairs to Saipan and Tinian seaports and airports.

■ \$420,355, in federal funding to the Tinian Municipality for permanent repairs to the Department of Land and Natural Resources building(s).

■ \$368,532, in federal funding to the Saipan Municipality for permanent repairs to Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Historic Preservation Office and content damage in 10 municipal buildings.

■ \$208,109, in federal funding to Northern Marianas College for emergency protective measures taken during Super Typhoon Yutu.

■ \$154,705, in federal funding to Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for permanent repairs to two CUC buildings and building components.

■ \$112,693, in federal funding to the CNMI Public School System for permanent repairs to the Tanapag Head Start (\$19,455), Oleai Head Start (\$40,215), and Dandan Head Start (\$53,023).

■ \$71,957, in federal funding to Saipan Community School for permanent repairs to Building 8 and its contents and Building 9.

■ \$68,850, in federal funding to Mount Carmel School for permanent repairs to classrooms and the Library in Building A.

To date, FEMA has obligat-

ed a total of more than \$130 million in federal funding for Public Assistance projects related to Super Typhoon Yutu. The President authorized federal cost share for all categories of Public Assistance, at 90% of total eligible costs. In addition, federal cost share for debris removal and emergency protective measures was authorized at 100% for 180 days from the start of the incident.

These grants are funded through FEMA's Public Assistance program, which provides grant reimbursement to communities for expenses incurred in the immediate response and the recovery from a disaster. Eligible applicants include U.S. territories, local governments states, federally-recognized tribal governments, and certain private nonprofit organizations. The grant applications in the CNMI are submitted by the Commonwealth, which coordinates the process with local governments.

FEMA obligates funding for these projects directly to the Commonwealth and it is the Commonwealth's responsibility to ensure the eligible sub-recipients receive this award. Following its review process and upon receipt of appropriate documentation, the Commonwealth will provide funds to the sub-recipient on a reimbursable basis. **(PR)**



The managers of Pay-Less Markets Inc. show their newly signed 5-2-1-Almost None pledges alongside staff from the University of Guam's SNAP-Ed program.

UNIVERSITY OF GUAM

Grocers take UOG's pledge to promote healthy foods

Six Guam food retailers have pledged to promote healthy food and physical activity in a total of 13 store locations over the next year by taking the University of Guam's 5-2-1-Almost None Pledge in October.

The campaign, headed by the University of Guam's Supplemental Nutrition As-

sistance Program – Education program in collaboration with the Department of Public Health and Social Services, promotes the daily habits of:

■ eating five servings of fruits and vegetables

■ limiting screen time to two hours or less

■ getting at least one hour of physical activity, and

■ drinking almost no sugar-sweetened beverages.

The participating businesses—Agat Kimchee Store, Cost-U-Less Express, all Pay-Less Markets, Paulino's Store, Tutujan Quick Stop, and Yigo Island Pantry—will be displaying 5-2-1-Almost None messages, labeling items as

“Smart Snacks” that follow the national nutrition standards for healthy levels of fat, sugar, and sodium, and hosting cooking demonstrations, fruit and vegetable tastings, store tours, and nutrition education.

For more information about SNAP-Ed and the 5-2-1-Almost None campaign, visit, <http://cnas-re.uog.edu/cnep/>. **(PR)**



Eli D. Cabrera
Administrator

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Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
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Janice E. Castro
Director, DCRM

PUBLIC NOTICE MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 9:30AM** at the BECQ 2nd Floor Main Conference Room, in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Adoption of Agenda
- Adoption of September 03, 2019 Meeting Minutes

II. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

A. CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2019-X-045

Project: ASIA PACIFIC HOTEL PROJECT
The First Pacific Investment Group, Inc. is proposing to renovate, expand, and convert two adjoining 2-story commercial building into a 3-story hotel. The hotel buildings are located along Royal Palm Avenue and Coffee Tree Mall in Garapan, specifically identified as Lot Nos. 002 D 08, 002 D 09, and 002 D 10. Offsite parking is located on Lot Nos. 002 D 21 and 002 D 22 along Date Street and Coconut Street in Garapan, Saipan.

- Agencies' Discussion
- Agencies' Final Determination

B. CRM Permit Application No. TMS-2019-X-048

Project: TACHOGNYA QUARRY PROJECT
GPPC, Inc. is proposing to operate a state-of-the-art quarry operations in Tachongya, Tinian. GPPC, Inc. anticipates to produce aggregates of different sizes including manufactured sand. The operation will consist of a cement batching plant, an asphalt batching plant, and an office with an onsite generator. Staging of quarry materials will be situated at the Carolinas, Tinian.

- Agencies' Discussion
- Agencies' Final Determination

C. CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2019-X-060

Project: LATTE STONE HOTEL
Li Xu, LLC is proposing to construct the proposed Latte Stone Hotel along Puti Tainobu Avenue in Garapan, Saipan. The proposed development is a 4-story hotel building with a total of 57 rooms and 24 parking spaces. The project will be situated on two leased private properties identified as Lot No. 004 D 29, measuring a total of 929 sq. m. and Lot No. 004 D030, measuring a total of 929 sq. m.

- Agencies' Discussion
- Agencies' Final Determination

III. OTHER MATTERS

IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ JANICE E. CASTRO
Director, DCRM



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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS 2020-CDA-01-RFQ

Closing Date: Wednesday, November 20, 2019 • **Time:** 9:30 a.m.

“CONSTRUCTION OF LOW-COST HOUSING UNTIS FOR CDA'S RENT TO OWN HOME”

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority's independent contractor for A&E services, Taniguichi Ruth Makio Architects (TRMA) Office, Suite 204, M2M Building, Garapan Street, Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) Monday thru Friday or by e-mail request to trma.cnmi@gmail.com. The package will also be available on CDA's website at www.developcnmi.com

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTIONS 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ VINNEY ATALIG-HOCO
Acting Chairman,
CDA Board of Directors

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
Acting Director,
Procurement & Supply

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Not clear Airbnb plan would have stopped deaths at Halloween party

It's a shame that it took the fatal shootings of five people at a Halloween party in Orinda, Calif., last week to wake up Airbnb to potential problems with its short-term rentals.

The question is what the online property booking firm plans to do about it. The answer should start with more vigilance—a lot more.

More than 100 people showed up for a party at a rental house that was supposed to be occupied by no more than 13. The house had been the subject of neighbor complaints earlier this year, and city officials had issued warnings to the property owner.

Yet no one stopped the booking last week. And when complaints started rolling in, Orinda police were slow to respond. This was a tragedy that should have been prevented.

There's plenty of blame to go around: The renter who lied about the planned use. The property owner who failed to vet the renter. The police who took well over an hour to respond to neighbor complaints at an address that was already known to law enforcement as a problem location.

And Airbnb.

To its credit, the company is now trying to be proactive. "We are banning 'party houses' and we are redoubling our efforts to combat unauthorized parties and get rid of abusive host and guest conduct, including conduct that leads to the terrible events we saw in Orinda," CEO Brian Chesky announced Saturday on Twitter.

Chesky said the company will expand its manual screening of high-risk reservations flagged by the company's risk-detection technology; create a dedicated "party house" rapid response team; crack down more quickly on abusive renters; and initiate a "10 day sprint" to develop and implement the new measures.

OK, but it's not at all clear any of that would have prevented last week's tragedy. Large parties were already prohibited at the property.

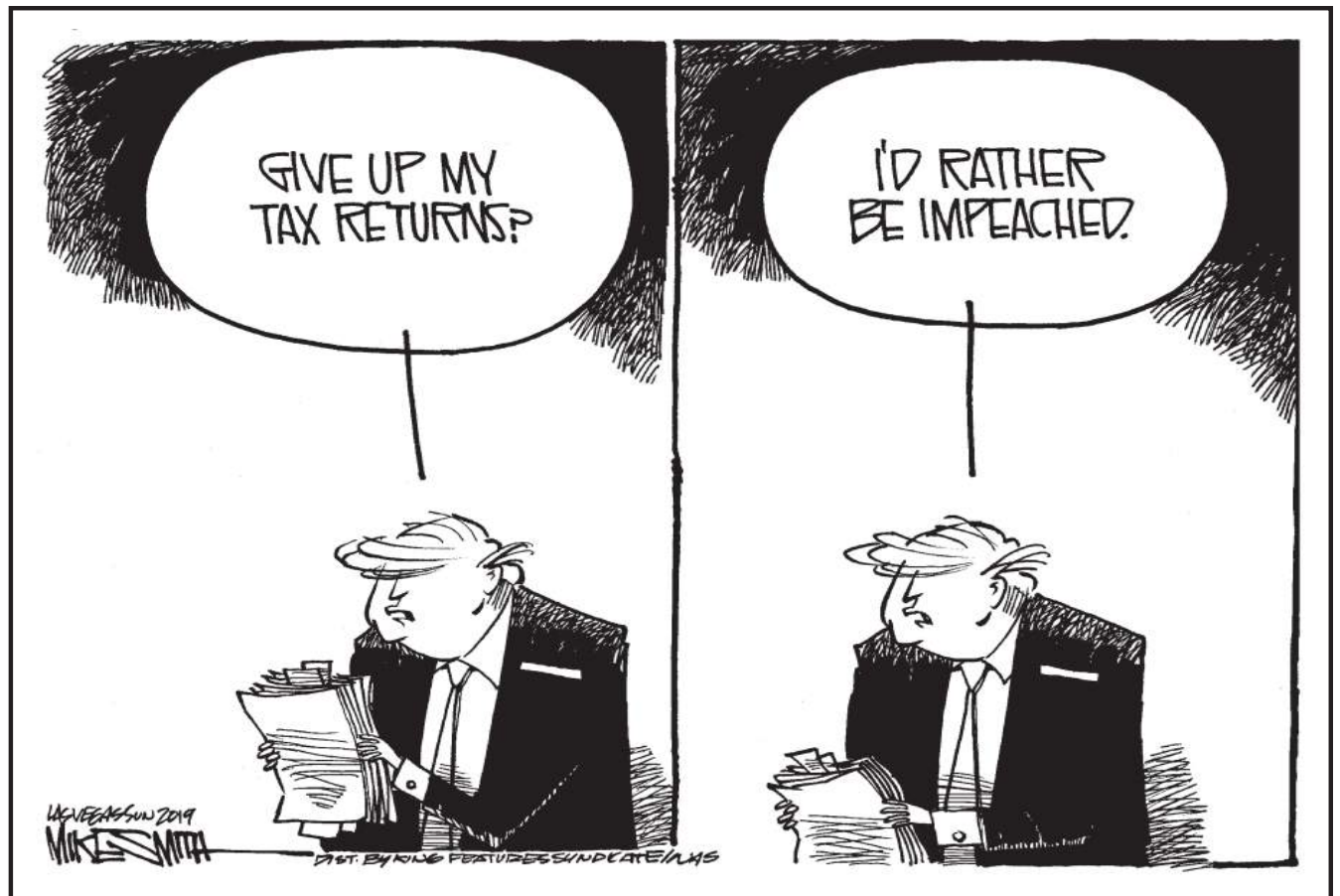
If Airbnb, which did not respond to our request to discuss its new plans, is serious about cracking down, it should start with flagging and blocking problem listings, like the one in Orinda. For that, Airbnb needs an open and direct line of communication with the cities.

San Francisco has imposed registration rules on rental properties that have led to coordination between that city and the company. But Airbnb has no communication with cities like Orinda, which also has a short-term occupancy ordinance.

It should, starting with a violations hotline that cities can use to report problems. Had Airbnb known about the troubled history of the Orinda property, it could have flagged the last week's rental more carefully.

Maybe that would have been enough to save five lives.

(c)2019 The Mercury News (San Jose, Calif.)



US needs more skilled immigrants from India and China

The U.S. is still a land of opportunity for immigrants. That is the implication of a new research paper by economists Ran Abramitzky, Leah Platt Boustan, Elisa Jacome and Santiago Perez.

Using historical Census data to compare the incomes of immigrant fathers and their native-born sons, the economists found that the second generation has been just as capable of moving up the economic ladder in recent decades as they were a century ago. Looking at second-generation American men whose immigrant fathers were at the 25th percentile of income—in other words, fairly poor—they found that they tend to climb higher than their poor counterparts whose fathers were born in the U.S. And for most countries the researchers could measure, immigrant upward mobility is greater now than it was a century ago.

Almost all children of recent immigrants tend to be more upwardly mobile than people whose parents were born in the U.S. That isn't surprising, since immigrants often have limited English skills and lack personal networks in the country; their children, who don't suffer these disadvantages, naturally tend to move up to an income level more commensurate with their ambition and abilities. Furthermore, immigrants tend to move to places where upward mobility is easier, like big cities and college towns.

But immigrants from some countries are especially mobile:

The average second-generation Indian or Chinese American who grew up on the edge of poverty will tend to reach the upper-middle class. That level of upward mobility is simply amazing. For Indian Americans, the phenomenon is particularly surprising, since most Indian immigrants already speak English when they arrive, and hence have less of a handicap relative to their native-born kids.

Why do Indian and Chinese immigrants do so well? Some will no doubt attribute their outperformance to cultural values of education and hard work. In reality, it's probably more about the type of immigrants who come from those countries. Indian and Chinese people tend to come to the U.S. not as refugees or unauthorized low-wage laborers, but as high-skilled workers or the close relatives of skilled workers. That means even poor Indian and Chinese immigrants tend to have prosperous friends and relatives, and to come from families that value education and ambition. And India and China have by far the biggest pools of population from which to select such driven and talented individuals.

This is especially true for India. Even in comparison with other high-achieving groups, Indian Americans stand out in terms of education level and dominance in high-skilled occupations:

As a result, Indians are the highest-earning group by ancestry in the U.S., with a median household income of more than \$110,000 in 2016 (the difference isn't due to larger households, since Indian Americans also come out on top in terms of per

By NOAH SMITH
Bloomberg View

Noah Smith is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He was an assistant professor of finance at Stony Brook University, and he blogs at [Noahpinion](http://Noahpinion.com).



capita income). But it's not just scientific and technical fields in which Indian Americans excel. They are increasingly a force in politics and law. A growing number of politicians, top political staffers and judges are of Indian descent. In business, too, Indians are rocketing to the top—two of the U.S.'s five biggest companies, Alphabet Inc. and Microsoft Corp., have Indian-born chief executive officers. Though historical comparisons are hard, Indians seem on track to be the most accomplished minority group in U.S. history.

This is not to say that all Indian Americans are successful; some are poor. Nor should Indian achievement be used as a reason to denigrate other lower-skilled immigrant groups. The point, rather, is that the U.S. could benefit by letting in more Indian immigrants.

Employer-sponsored permanent residence permits, or green cards, are parceled out by country. There are about 150,000 available each year; officially, only 7% of these green cards can be given to immigrants from any one country in a given year, though some countries' unused spots can be given to other countries. This system is deeply biased against big countries like India and China. In 2018, more than half of employment-based green card requests were for Indians, but Indians received only 13% of the total.

One solution is to simply remove the country cap. Congress has been trying to do this, with a bill called the Fairness for High-Skilled Immigrants Act, but the legislation is being blocked by a handful of powerful senators.

Eliminating the country cap would be fair to large countries and would improve the flow of talent into the U.S., but it would only be a marginal improvement. A better idea is to simply increase the number of employment-sponsored green cards, and make the extra cards not subject to country caps. The U.S. now simply admits too few skill-based immigrants:

The world's biggest countries are offering the U.S. some of their most talented people. We should do more to help them live and work in America.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

An impeachment enemy within?

The two-year, multimillion dollar, Robert Mueller investigation to help impeach President Donald Trump was a farce from the beginning, as much a threat to this country's democratic principles as a Russian collusion would have been. Now we're getting exactly what is needed: a criminal investigation. Woe is The New York Times.

In an editorial posing as a news story, the newspaper told us this is just President Donald Trump trying to get revenge. Next in line were emotionally wrought talking heads on cable TV repeating the point for want of anything intelligent to say. To make that argument logically, they would have to know what the evidence was in any particular case and who was being accused of what. They would also need to explain the folderol leading up to the massively disruptive probe and tell us what solid grounds there were for it in the first place.

The thing is, the special counsel's report found no collusion. Let me say it again. After all the sniffing, digging and interviewing, the irrelevant arrests and destruction of lives, the selection of a partisan gotcha team, the media pile on and the certainty of pompous pundits, there was no demonstration of Trump or his cohorts corroborating with Russian agents.

If that's all they had at the end, what in the world did they have at the beginning?

Hooley is one answer. For example, there was an unverified, grotesque dossier that relied on Russians and was used against

Trump in a variety of ways. It had its origins with Hillary Clinton campaign money. We had illegal, misleading, official leaks. We had CIA involvement that some say was out of order. We had FBI Director James Comey disregarding the rules of the road in his release of memos. Under the Obama administration, there was spying and criminal research on Trump staffers. We had a game played on a Trump campaign aide, George Papadopolous, that appears downright treacherous.

A criminal investigation of this and more could add up to proof that the Mueller investigation was an assault on our dearest principles as proud officials, their underlings and leftist politicians said it was their voices, not those of millions of voters, that mattered. The thesis seemed to be that trash had elected trash and it that it was up to the precious few to throw the trash out.

Boldly and correctly, Attorney General William Barr initiated a counter-investigation, naming the highly esteemed, honorable prosecution whiz John Durham to figure out why the Mueller adventure started in the first place. It was then Durham who decided to reconstitute the probe as a criminal investigation. He can now subpoena evidence and call witnesses before grand juries that could then make decisions leading to trials and perhaps to convictions and imprisonment. But if there's terror in Washington, it hasn't slowed down a second charade.

Democrats in the House have been proceeding with an im-

By **JAY AMBROSE**

Tribune News Service

Jay Ambrose is an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service. Readers may email him at speaktojay@aol.com.



peachment inquiry as twisted and contrived in appearance as it probably is in reality. What's the real story behind the hidden whistleblower? Why all the secrecy? Why no House vote to get things started and what's with this recent vote that still keeps Republicans in a secondary, controlled role? The supposition now is that Trump had a quid pro quo in asking Ukraine to investigate Joe Biden, namely that the country would not get U.S. aid if it refused. But Ukraine never knew of a delay or investigated Biden and soon received military aid of a kind President Barack Obama never allowed.

Trump was out of line, but not to the degree of impeachment. Joe Biden's conflicts of interest are actually a much bigger deal. And once again we have unsettling procedures. Congress needs to work on the nation's needs and let the voters have a say in the 2020 election.

Bigoted comments dishonor veterans



AP

Army Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vindman, a military officer at the National Security Council, center, arrives on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, Oct. 29, 2019, to appear before a House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and Committee on Oversight and Reform joint interview with the transcript to be part of the impeachment inquiry into President Donald Trump.

Honor. Courage. Commitment. These were the Marine Corps values instilled in me day in and day out from the very moment I first stepped foot on those infamous yellow footprints at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island to become a United States Marine.

I was born in Pakistan. I immigrated to the United States around age 6. English was my second language. Oh yes, did I mention—I'm tan skinned and a proud Muslim.

And just like many Americans, I follow the news and try to keep myself apprised of all that's taking place in our nation, in particular, these days, the U.S. Congress and its potential to impeach President Trump. It's literally in your face daily.

I've personally chosen to remain quiet on the whole impeachment thing. As an average citizen, I'm simply not privy to all the facts needed to make a full assessment on such a serious matter with so many implications across so many spheres. But last week, things finally struck a chord with me as one of my own was viciously attacked for simply acting out on honor, courage and commitment.

I'm referring to the case of U.S. Army Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman—a decorated combat war veteran and a recipient of the prestigious Purple Heart with over two decades of honorable service to the United States. One would think his accolades speak for themselves, but it seems in today's America no one is spared, not even the guy once injured by an IED attack in Iraq, who could have lost his life that day.

As news coverage surfaced of Vindman's testimony before Congress, seen as damaging to the president regarding the whole Trump-Ukraine debacle, Fox News hosts like Brian Kilmeade and Laura Ingraham wasted no time in skipping over Vindman's superior record of honorable service and pointing viewers toward theories questioning his loyalties, as well as even going as far as insinuating espionage.

Kilmeade made a point of saying Vindman, who is also the National Security Council's top Ukrainian expert, "is from the Soviet Union, he immigrated from there and has an affinity to the Ukrainian people." Vindman was only 3 years old when his

By **MANSOOR SHAMS**

The Baltimore Sun

Mansoor Shams is a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, the founder of MuslimMarine.org and term member on the Council on Foreign Relations. His email is: mansoor@muslim-marine.org; Twitter: [@mansoortshams](https://twitter.com/mansoortshams).



family immigrated, not that it should matter.

Ingraham decided to take things a notch higher. "Here we have a U.S. National Security Advisor official," she said, "who is advising Ukraine while working inside the White House apparently against the president's interests. Isn't that kind of an interesting angle on a story?"

Law professor John Yoo, Ingraham's guest, immediately took the bait: "I find that astounding," he said. "Some people might call that espionage."

But this sort of questioning of Vindman's credibility and patriotism didn't just seem to be limited to Fox News—CNN contributor and former Republican congressman from Wisconsin, Sean Duffy also seemed in alignment stating, "Mr. Vindman, he's an adviser to the president, he's a former Ukrainian, he wants to make sure taxpayer money goes to military aid to the Ukraine. He's entitled to that position."

When pressed by CNN host John Berman about why Duffy started his statement by highlighting Vindman's birthplace and why it mattered where he was born, Duffy unabashedly doubled down: "He has an affinity I think for the Ukraine, he speaks Ukrainian, came from the country, and he wants to make sure they're safe and free, I understand that."






I honestly couldn't believe what I was witnessing. Had the bar really stooped so low that a man with over 20 years of honorable service to the United States and a Purple Heart was now all of a sudden basically a nobody for the mere reason his birth hadn't taken place in the United States?

For individuals like Lt. Col. Vindman, myself and countless others with immigrant roots, being made to feel as if we don't belong is all too common in today's America. It's the sort of feeling that makes us question our sacrifice and whether or not the American family we always thought to be our family ever considers us to be the same.

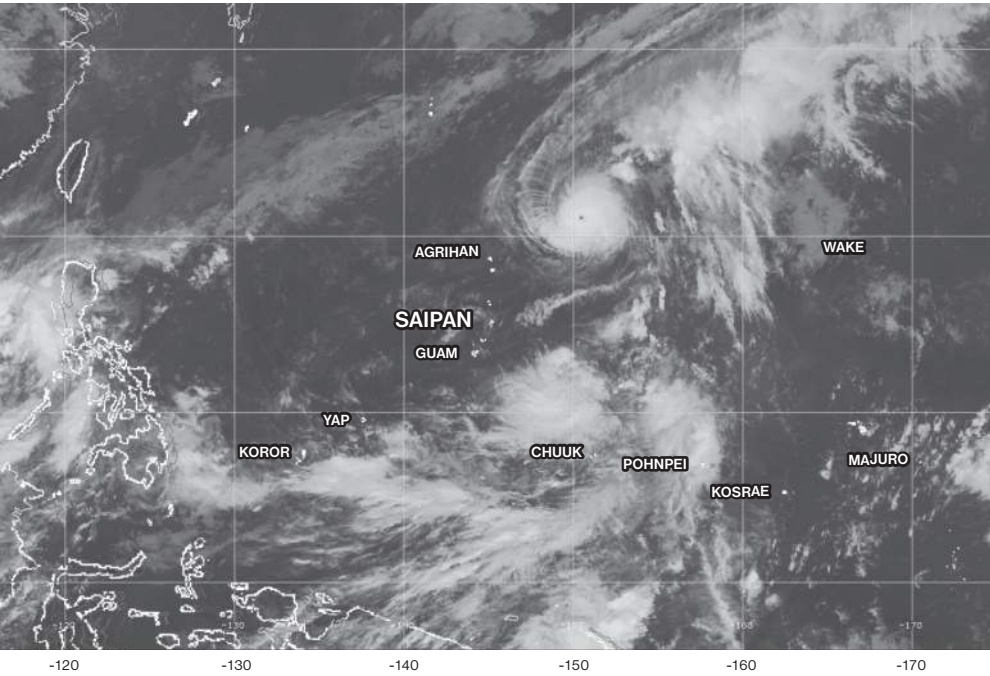
So thank you Laura Ingraham, Brian Kilmeade, Sean Duffy and all others who align themselves with such bigotry for belittling U.S. military service members and veterans who weren't born here. Hope you all sleep easy tonight as the thousands of immigrants serving in uniform continue protecting your free speech.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY	
									
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds around 10 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds around 10 mph.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	
87°	76°	87°	77°	87°	76°	87°	77°	87°	77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:51 AM, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2019
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Guam radar shows isolated showers moving through the Marianas. The VAD wind profile indicates north-northwest winds of 6 to 11 knots through the lowest 2 thousand feet of the air. The buoys reveal combined seas of 4 to 6 feet composed entirely of northeast swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	84° / 78°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 76°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 77°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 80°	

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Showers	66° / 63°	
Beijing	Sunny	61° / 34°	
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	82° / 72°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84° / 72°	
London	Partly Cloudy	48° / 37°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	79° / 59°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°	
Melbourne	Rain	55° / 45°	
Miami	Mostly Sunny	85° / 77°	
New York	Mostly Sunny	43° / 31°	
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	64° / 46°	
Paris	Showers	50° / 43°	
Busan	Mostly Sunny	64° / 45°	
Rome	Showers	66° / 54°	
Salem	Showers	73° / 51°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	68° / 48°	
Seoul	Sunny	55° / 34°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	61° / 46°	
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	62° / 39°	



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:35 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.19	
9:57 AM	LOW TIDE	0.32	
4:58 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.66	
11:28 PM	LOW TIDE	0.64	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:14 AM	5:46 PM
Friday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:46 AM	2:34 PM
Friday	-	2:33 AM	3:11 PM
Saturday	-	3:20 AM	3:47 PM
Sunday	-	4:07 AM	4:23 PM
Monday	-	4:54 AM	5:00 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 27, 2019

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily	UA174	7:30am	8:10am	Daily
UA105	6:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4	UA104	4:50pm	5:30pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
7C3451	3:20am	6:30am	Daily	7C3452	9:35pm	2:30am+1	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
				7C3452	10:05pm	2:30am+1	3
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	2:05am	6:05am	Daily	OZ6233	8:00am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6
OZ626	2:10am	6:10am	1	OZ623	8:55am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ626	2:50am	6:25am	3, 7	7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 4, 5, 6	OZ625	7:30pm	1:00am+1	7
7C3403	4:35am	8:35am	Daily	TW307	7:45pm	1:05am+1	Daily
OZ6243	3:20pm	7:10pm	2, 4, 6	OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ624	3:50pm	7:40pm	1, 3, 5, 7	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily				
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:50am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)				HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN			
JD396	7:30am	12:05pm	1	JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4	JD395	8:50pm	5:00am+1	7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:30am	7:50am	2, 6	3U8645	8:10pm	3:10am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7	MU763	4:50pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/701	2:10am	10:35am	1 via ICN	UA184/174	12:40am	8:07am+1	3, 6 via GUM
OZ626/701	2:50am	10:35am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	Daily via GUM	OZ702/625	12:05pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR	UA192/174	10:40pm	8:07am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
				UA184/174	10:55pm	8:07am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
				OZ704/6233	11:45pm	1:20pm+1	1, 3, 5 via ICN
				OZ704/623	11:45pm	2:30pm+1	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/6233	12:30am	1:20pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ746/623	12:30am	2:30pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:35am	8:25am	1	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
UO43	5:50am	8:40am	3, 5, 7	OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ6243/9661	3:20pm	11:15pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN	UO42	6:25pm	1:20am+1	7
OZ624/9661	3:50pm	11:15pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UO42	9:25pm	4:20am+1	2, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; BC SkyMark ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA				1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily	1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily	1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily	1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO SAIPAN				1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily	1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily	1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily	1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily				
GUAM TO ROTA							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily				
SAIPAN TO TINIAN							
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY				
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily				
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily				

Business

Nanbo to award customers' sustainable lifestyle choices

HAGATÑA, Guam—Nanbo Insurance Underwriters announced the launch of one of its Go Green initiatives that reward customers for making sustainable lifestyle choices. With Nanbo's Go Green Hybrid campaign, customers who insure their electric hybrid vehicles with Nanbo will receive a voucher of up to \$350 that can be applied toward their energy bill.

General manager Brent Butler said, "Nanbo's leadership is committed to environmental awareness issues and providing sustainable initiatives that are good for our island and the world we live in. We're excited to launch this Go Green Hybrid promotion and look forward to offering customers relevant rewards for their participation in going green."

The promotion is open to Guam residents who are 21



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Customers who insure their electric hybrid vehicles under Nanbo's Go Green Hybrid campaign will receive a voucher of up to \$350 that can be applied toward their energy bill.

years of age or older with valid traffic clearance report and qualifying Full Hybrid, Mild Hybrid, or Plug-in Hybrid vehicles that are less than 10 years old and a minimum insurable value of \$5,000. The Go Green Hybrid promotion is available now and is limited to one hybrid vehicle

reward per customer (terms and conditions apply). The Go Green Hybrid promotion also qualifies for Nanbo's bundle-up discounts. Interested customers are encouraged to call 477-9754 or visit nanbo.com or Nanbo's two locations at the Nanbo Guahan 250 Building on Route 4 in Hagåtña and

the Guam ITC Building in Tamuning.

Nanbo has been serving Guam for more than 50 years by providing reliable and affordable home, auto, motorcycle, and business insurance. Nanbo Guam Ltd. was established in 1968 jointly by the Pete Ada and Eddie Terlaje

families of Guam, J.C. Tenoerio Enterprises of Saipan, and Nanyo Boeki Kaisha of Japan. Nanbo was established in 1969 and currently serves as general agent for Tokio Marine Pacific Insurance Limited and Pacific Guardian Life Insurance Company.

Nanbo was named Guam

Business Hall of Fame-2018 Business Laureate by the Guam Chamber of Commerce for its leadership in the insurance industry and its contributions to the community. Nanbo is committed to providing residents and businesses on Guam with exceptional Hafa Adai customer service. (PR)

McDonald's CEO's ouster reflects trend on workplace romances

NEW YORK (AP)—Workplace couples are often romanticized—think Bill and Melinda Gates or Michelle and Barack Obama. But when the relationship involves two people with unequal power, it can also be fraught with peril, especially in the #MeToo era.

McDonald's CEO Steve Easterbrook is only the latest chief executive to be ousted over a consensual relationship with an employee. Increasingly, U.S. companies are adopting policies addressing workplace romances, a trend that began well before the #MeToo movement galvanized a national conversation surrounding sexual misconduct.

Addressing workplace romance can be complicated, but many companies have removed any gray areas by forbidding managers, especially C-suite executives, from having relationships with subordinates given the potential for favoritism or lawsuits if the relationship sours.

There are questions about whether consent is truly possible when the power imbalance is especially great. Many women who have come forward to share their

#MeToo stories have said that they feared the consequences of saying no to a powerful person who could influence their careers.

"That power difference can create a dynamic where the relationship can never truly be consensual," said Debra Katz, a founder partner of the law firm Katz Marshall & Banks who has represented women in several prominent sexual harassment cases. "The #MeToo movement has shown how quickly it can go from consensual in the beginning to a huge problem when the relationship goes awry."

Easterbrook's departure comes as McDonald's steps up its efforts to stop sexual harassment after dozens of employee complaints.

Over the last three years, more than 50 McDonald's employees have filed cases alleging sexual harassment with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission or in state courts, according to Fight for \$15, a labor advocacy group.

In August, the hamburger chain unveiled a program to teach its 850,000 U.S. employees how to recognize and report harassment and bully-

ing. Franchisees—who own 95% of McDonald's 14,000 U.S. restaurants—aren't required to offer the training, but the company expects them to provide it.

McDonald's said Easterbrook violated company policy forbidding managers from having romantic relationships with direct or indirect subordinates. In an email to employees, Easterbrook said the relationship was a mistake and he agreed "it is time for me to move on." He was replaced by Chris Kempczinski, who recently served as president of McDonald's USA.

Time's Up, a group that fights harassment and has been supporting workers' legal cases, said Easterbrook's departure should provide an opportunity for McDonald's to do more, including making sexual harassment training mandatory.

"Under the new leadership of Chris Kempczinski, McDonald's has an opportunity, and obligation, to act to ensure that all of its locations are safe and equitable for all," said Jennifer Klein, chief strategy and policy officer at Time's Up.

California utility meets with governor amid bankruptcy case

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)—California's governor called the chief executive of a troubled utility to his office on Tuesday for a closed-door meeting as the company struggles to emerge from a high-profile bankruptcy while facing criticism for its practice of shutting off power for millions of people to prevent wildfires.

A spokesman for Gov. Gavin Newsom says the first-term governor "spelled out in vivid detail" how the blackouts have prevented people from "refilling lifesaving prescriptions and power breathing machines" and how small businesses and schools were closed for days.

Newsom also reiterated the state would consider a potential takeover of the utility if the bankruptcy is not resolved by June 30.

Pacific Gas & Electric Corp. CEO Bill Johnson defended the company, telling reporters after the meeting that the power shutoffs have been "well planned and executed."

"I came to California with one basic purpose: Let's make sure we don't kill anybody at our operations," said Johnson, who worked for a Tennessee power supplier before joining PG&E in April. "I think we achieved that this year. I un-

derstand the hardship, I apologize for it, but for me, safety has to come first."

State and local government leaders disagree, saying PG&E has communicated poorly and often given conflicting accounts about when the lights would go out. In a response to the Public Utilities Commission last week, the company acknowledged "various, and in some cases, extreme, shortcomings."

Last year, strong winds knocked down some of PG&E's power lines, which sparked a series of devastating wildfires. One in Northern California mostly destroyed the town of Paradise, burning down more than 18,000 buildings and killing 85 people. In January of this year, facing potential damages of up to \$30 billion, PG&E filed for bankruptcy.

This year, the company has been aggressive in shutting off power during dry, windy conditions to prevent wildfires. Johnson said Tuesday he believes the company won't have power shutoffs on this scale in 10 years as it works to "sectionalize the system."

"There will be fewer (power shutoffs) every year, and eventually we will get out of it," he said.

Since the utility's bankruptcy filing in January, PG&E's shareholders and creditors have battled for control of the company, putting forth competing plans in bankruptcy court that would maintain PG&E's long-running setup as a for-profit company. It's a structure that critics contend caused management to look for ways to cut corners instead of investing in equipment and other measures that would have made its electricity system far safer than it is now.

A judge appointed a mediator, and the first meeting is scheduled for Wednesday in San Francisco. But Tuesday, mayors and local leaders from more than two dozen cities and counties scattered across PG&E's sprawling service area endorsed an alternative proposal by urging regulators to consider a still-nascent proposal to convert the utility into a customer-owned cooperative.

The request outlined in letter to the California Public Utilities Commission echoes an idea already floated by Newsom and San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo, who joined the chorus of other leaders pushing for an alternative to keeping PG&E under the ownership of profit-driven investors.

STOCK

PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW

27,492.63

+30.52

+0.11%

S&P

3,074.62

-3.65

-0.12%

NASDAQ

8,434.68

+1.48

+0.018%

EXCHANGE RATES

Hong Kong Dollar	7.8318	Russian Ruble	63.5233
Australian Dollar	1.4516	Singapore Dollar	1.3584
British Pound	0.7765	Japanese Yen	108.9750
Canadian Dollar	1.3168	Malaysian Ringgit	4.0948
Chinese Yuan	6.8782	New Zealand Dollar	1.5707
Euro	0.9031	Philippine Peso	49.6963
		Taiwan Dollar	29.8910
		Thailand Baht	30.2625

Nation

White House lawyers expected to take lead in impeachment

WASHINGTON (AP)—As House Democrats prepare for public impeachment hearings, President Donald Trump and his legal team are working to organize a defense that will rely heavily on White House attorneys and congressional Republicans to stave off the threat to his presidency.

Democrats consider the hearings to be their best chance to put Trump's behavior on public display before a politically fraught impeachment vote. Trump's allies, for their part, see the hearings as an opportunity to take the fight to the president's opponents. The political lens through which both sides are viewing the public hearings is informing the president's legal strategy, according to Trump's supporters.

The White House counsel's office is currently expected to take the lead in mounting the president's defense, according to a person familiar with the legal strategy who spoke on condition of anonymity to relay internal discussions. The arrangement will put government attorneys, rather than the president's personal lawyers, on the front lines of Trump's attempt to fend off Democratic efforts to remove him from office.

The White House did not comment on the arrangement.

The White House attorneys will be bolstered by the roster of GOP lawmakers who have already been serving as the president's de facto defense counsel in closed-door hear-



President Donald Trump arrives at Blue Grass Airport in Lexington, Ky., Monday, Nov. 4, 2019, for a campaign rally.

ings. Transcripts of depositions released this week show Republican lawmakers taking steps to try to undermine the credibility of witnesses in the impeachment inquiry. Other legislators have sought to publicly unmask the whistleblower whose summer complaint served as the catalyst for the impeachment probe.

A White House official said the president was supportive of efforts to move vocal defenders like Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio to the House Intelligence

Committee, which will hold the first public hearings, believing him to be an effective questioner and defender of the president. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss legal strategy.

Further involvement by the lawyers is expected once hearings move to the Judiciary Committee. The House voted last week to approve rules for the impeachment inquiry that invite the president and his attorneys to attend all hearings by that committee. Addition-

ally, the president's counsel is to be granted access to the committee's evidence and the ability to question witnesses. The White House official dismissed the idea that the president would attend.

The decision to put the counsel's office out in front in responding to the impeachment inquiry was made because the congressional probe centers on actions that Trump took as president, according to

the person familiar with legal strategy. That's in contrast to the impeachment inquiry into President Bill Clinton, which involved allegations that he lied about his relationship with a White House intern and sought to obstruct an investigation into the affair.

It gives Trump the image of being represented by the White House counsel, rather than private attorneys whose prominence in the

proceedings, they believe, might diminish his stature. It also keeps the legal team that still includes embattled former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani away from the spotlight.

In the first year of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into ties between the Trump campaign and Russia, the administration added a special in-house lawyer, Ty Cobb, to respond to prosecutors' requests for documents and interviews with White House staff. Cobb was later replaced by another attorney, Emmet Flood. The president also relied on a team of personal attorneys, including Giuliani, to handle negotiations with Mueller's team on matters such as terms for an interview.

"The rationale is correct as far as it goes, but I also think that there's good reason to not have the White House counsel's office take the lead on this," said Timothy Flanigan, a former deputy counsel to President George W. Bush.

He added: "The White House counsel's office has a lot to do. It's not clear to me that it's always a good idea for the White House counsel to get involved in a project of this magnitude."

Still, there can be benefits in having the counsel's office intimately involved in an investigation like this, simply by virtue of familiarity with the events.

Police seek to ID suspect in death over chicken sandwich

UPPER MARLBORO, Md. (AP)—A man cutting in a line for chicken sandwiches at a crowded Popeyes restaurant in Maryland was stabbed to death by another customer who confronted him, police said Tuesday.

Prince George's County Police Chief Hank Stawinski appealed for the public's help in identifying the man who fatally stabbed 28-year-old Kevin Tyrell Davis once after their argument spilled outside the Oxon Hill restaurant Monday evening.

Stawinski, who called it a "pointless crime," said only 15 seconds elapsed from when the altercation started to when it ended with the stabbing. Davis had been "methodically cutting his way through the line for sandwiches for 15 minutes" before the suspect confronted him at the front counter, the chief said.

"The question my detectives have to answer is, 'How does a

confrontation lead to a homicide in 15 seconds?'" Stawinski told reporters outside a police station in Upper Marlboro. "The family of the individual who was killed is looking for closure. The families and children who were in this restaurant are looking for closure."

Popeyes resumed selling its chicken sandwich on Sunday. It was first released in August, and the chain credited popular demand to its supply selling out that month. Marketing around the sandwich has built a frenzy that's causing long lines and waits at the chain's restaurants. Stawinski said dozens of people were at the restaurant at the time.

A statement from Popeyes said the fast food chain and its Oxon Hill franchisee are co-operating with authorities and "actively working to gather more information."

"What happened in Maryland last night is a tragedy and we are saddened to hear about

this senseless act of violence. Our thoughts are with the victim's family and friends," the statement says.

Police released surveillance camera images of the suspect and a woman who apparently was with him inside the restaurant and fled with him in a car after the stabbing. Investigators want to speak with that woman.

"We think she has some pretty vital information to the investigation," said police department spokeswoman Jennifer Donelan.

Stawinski said there is no evidence that the suspect and victim knew each other.

Police found a knife in Davis' possession after the stabbing, but investigators don't believe he brandished it during the confrontation, according to Donelan.

Davis, of Oxon Hill, died at a hospital. He had been stabbed once in the upper body, the police spokeswoman said.

ACROSS THE NATION

2nd white man sentenced in 2017 Mississippi cross burning

JACKSON, Miss. (AP)—A second white man has been sentenced to federal prison for his part in burning a cross in 2017 in the yard of an African American family in south Mississippi. U.S. District Judge Keith Starrett on Tuesday sentenced 38-year-old Graham Williamson to three years in prison. Williamson pleaded guilty Aug. 5 to intimidating and interfering with fair housing and conspiring to use fire or explosives to commit a felony. Prosecutors say Williamson and another man built a wooden cross and burned it "with the intention of intimidating and frightening" black residents of Seminary, about 70 miles (110 kilometers) south of Jackson. Louie Bernard Revette received an 11-year sentence in September, months after pleading guilty to interfering with housing rights and using fire during commission of a federal felony.

Wisconsin acid attack suspect once held hunters at gunpoint

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The 61-year-old white man accused of throwing acid on a Hispanic man's face in Milwaukee once held four hunters at gunpoint on his Wisconsin property during a chilling encounter. Clifton A. Blackwell is suspected of attacking 42-year-old Mahud Villalaz Friday night after accusing him of being illegally in the U.S. and "invading" the country. Blackwell is in custody with charges

pending, and the case is being investigated as a hate crime. The confrontation with the hunters happened on Blackwell's property in 2006 in Rusk County, a mostly rural area in northwestern Wisconsin. He marched the men to his house with a rifle and demanded money from them, according to court documents and the hunters' accounts. Blackwell at one point was found incompetent to stand trial but eventually was convicted of two charges. He was released in 2011.

Alabama police capture teen accused in Halloween threat

MOBILE, Ala. (AP)—Police in Alabama say they've recaptured a juvenile accused of threatening to shoot up schools around Mobile as a prank on Halloween. A statement from Mobile police says the juvenile was arrested Tuesday, five days after he ran away while being taken to a detention center. Police say the 17-year-old is charged with escape, theft, violating probation and making a terrorist threat. Mobile County's public school system says the youth was arrested last week for allegedly creating fake social media accounts and making threats toward four schools. A statement says the posts included a clown image and were meant as a Halloween prank. The youth got away from officers who were taking him to a detention center. Authorities haven't released his name or details on how he was arrested.

Asia

HK leader says she has Xi's backing to tackle unrest

HONG KONG (AP)—Embattled Hong Kong leader Carrie Lam said Tuesday that she has received the backing of Chinese President Xi Jinping in her handling of five months of anti-government protests in the semi-autonomous Chinese territory, as hundreds of masked demonstrators took to the streets again.

Xi and Lam unexpectedly held talks Monday night on the sidelines of a trade event in Shanghai amid signals from China's central government that it may tighten its grip on Hong Kong to quell the unrest that has at times challenged Chinese rule.

Lam told a news conference in Shanghai that Xi expressed "care and concern" during their brief meeting, along with

support for measures taken by her government to end the crisis. She vowed that the government will strive to stamp out violence with strict law enforcement.

Lam said she was disturbed by mounting injuries during the protests, including an incident early Monday that left a 22-year-old university student sprawled in a pool of blood at a carpark building after police fired tear gas. Hospital officials said the victim was in a critical condition.

Lam said investigations would be carried out to determine exactly what happened, and that the case drove home the government's message that violence must cease.

Television footage showed



AP
Hong Kong's Chief Executive Carrie Lam attends a news conference ahead of a Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce dinner in Shanghai, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019.

not give up," a protester wearing a Guy Fawkes mask said on local television. Police later fired a water cannon and quickly broke up the rally.

Earlier Tuesday, Hong Kong Chief Secretary Matthew Cheung said Xi's meeting with Lam was a "vote of confidence" in the city's government. But pro-democracy lawmaker Claudia Mo warned of a tougher stance by Beijing.

"The message to Hong Kong people is that we are with her, she has our backing and you better watch out," Mo told The Associated Press.

China's official Xinhua News Agency reported that Xi also "demanded unswerving efforts to stop and punish violent activities." He called for more dialogue and efforts to improve people's livelihoods in one of the world's most expensive cities.

China's Communist Party last week indicated it may try to find a way to enact anti-subversion laws in Hong Kong, after such measures were shelved previously due to public opposition.

China resume pork imports from Canada amid dispute

TORONTO (AP)—China will resume imports of pork and beef from Canada, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced Tuesday, following a major rift between Ottawa and Beijing and amid a serious pork shortage in China as it combats African swine fever.

The move comes almost five months after Beijing suspended all meat imports from Canada over a dispute over Canada's detention of a top executive at the Chinese tech company Huawei.

"Good news for Canadian farmers today: Canadian pork and beef exports to China will resume," Trudeau said on Twitter.

Huawei CFO Meng Wanzhou was arrested Dec. 1 in Canada at the request of U.S. authorities, who want to try her on fraud charges. She's the daughter of the company's founder.

China then detained two Canadians, Michael Kovrig and Michal Spavor, and sentenced another to death in an apparent attempt to pressure for her release. Beijing threatened "grave consequences" if Ottawa did not release Meng.

But pork is China's staple meat and its price and availability is considered a matter of national concern. Shortfalls in supply have increased demand for pork from producers in the U.S., with whom China is locked in an increasingly acrimonious tariff battle.

Guy Saint-Jacques, a former Canadian ambassador to China, said he met with

people in Canada's pork industry on Monday who reported to him that they received a request last week from a Chinese importer asking how much pork they could supply.

"The Chinese have run down their own reserve. They bought everything they could from Brazil and Europe, but the impact of the flu has been more severe than they would have expected. It's now present in 32 provinces so almost everywhere in China," Saint-Jacques said.

"They have lost up to a 100 million pigs. It will take at least 10 years for them to return to normal."

Saint-Jacques said the price of pork has increased by at least 70 percent and probably more in some parts of China. "The government had to take in account popular pressure and to resume imports of Canadian pork," Saint-Jacques said.

China has often retaliated against foreign governments and corporations in diplomatic disputes.

Relations between Ottawa and Beijing have been at their worst since the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989. Saint-Jacques called relations "slightly less bad now" after China agreed to Canada's new envoy to Beijing in September.

"The message has been clear. Unless and until Meng is returned to China things won't be back to normal and they still detain Kovrig and Spavor," he said.

riot police firing tear gas at the building after objects were hurled down at the street at them when they chased off a mob. Minutes later, medical workers found the unconscious student on the second floor of the building.

Senior police official Suzanne Foo said late Tuesday that the young man had reportedly fallen from an upper floor, but that it wasn't captured by security surveillance cameras. She

didn't rule out the possibility that he was fleeing from tear gas but noted that police fired from a far distance. She also rebutted online claims that police pushed the victim down.

"It is an upsetting incident. We will certainly investigate this case fully and do all we can to find out the truth," Foo said.

Hundreds of black-clad demonstrators wearing Guy Fawkes masks—which are

protest symbols worldwide—rallied Tuesday night in Hong Kong's busy Tsim Sha Tsui district to mark the one-month anniversary of a government ban on facial coverings at rallies. Some protesters vandalized shops and set up road barriers as they marched along streets.

"We are out to tell the government that we will not be cowed. We will fight to the end, Hong Kong people will

Used to impunity, Bangladesh elite face corruption crackdown

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—As gamblers called out bets around craps and roulette tables at a sports club in Bangladesh's capital, dozens of black-clad security forces burst inside.

Gamblers were ordered to the floor as police and members of Bangladesh's Rapid Action Battalion, which normally handles major counterterrorism operations, cracked open iron vaults full of cash.

By the end of the raid, more than 140 people had been taken out of the makeshift casino in handcuffs.

At the same time in another part of Dhaka, commandos were raiding the home of the suspected casino organizer, Khaled Mahmud Bhuiyan, an influential member of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's party. They say they discovered stashes of liquor, cash and illegal arms.

The raids are part of a sweeping anti-corruption campaign Hasina has launched in this Muslim nation where gambling is illegal, alcohol consumption requires a permit and where paying bribes

is common not just for lawbreakers but for those seeking normal government services.

Emboldened by December's landslide election victory for her ruling Awami League party, Hasina has declared stamping out corruption as her government's priority and promised even political allies won't be spared.

"This is an acknowledgment that corruption, extortion and unlawful activities have permeated the ruling party to the grassroots," said Ali Riaz, a professor of political science at Illinois State University and expert on Bangladeshi politics.

It remains to be seen how high up the campaign will be allowed to reach, Riaz said.

"Casinos and the unbridled power of the party leaders are just the tip of the iceberg of the corruption and absence of any accountability in the country," he said.

So far the campaign, which was launched in September, has netted several ruling party members charged with running illegal casinos, money laundering and possessing ille-

gal arms. Security forces have recovered millions of dollars' worth of cash, and stockpiles of weapons and gold. More than 600 bank accounts have been frozen.

Hasina has been able to attempt such a crackdown because she wields immense power after 10 years at the helm of government.

She's firmly in charge of her own party and faces no effective opposition in Parliament, with her party having 301 seats in the 350-seat Parliament. Her archrival, former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, is serving 17 years in jail for corruption.

That dominance could be exacerbating the corruption problem. While Bangladesh has a long history of ruling party members manipulating business and government contracts in their favor, experts say the total absence of political opposition has engendered a sense of impunity among some in power.

"Investment and politics become synonymous in Bangladesh," said Ifekhar Zaman, executive director of the Ban-

ladesh chapter of Transparency International. "A collusion of politics, business, and bureaucracy and law enforcement" has created an "infrastructure" of corruption.

When she launched the campaign, Hasina seemed to acknowledge that if corruption were allowed to spiral, it could set the stage for a repeat of events of January 2007, when a military-backed caretaker government took control of the country. The events are known locally as 1/11, for the date they began.

"We're taking measures in advance so that no 1/11-like incident can happen again in the country," Hasina said in September. "The purge must begin from my own house."

One of the people recently arrested, G.K. Shamim, a construction company owner who has ties to the ruling party, is accused by investigators of corruption on government projects, including building the headquarters of the Rapid Action Battalion, the same security force conducting the anti-corruption raids.

World

Drug cartel gunmen kill 9 US citizens in an ambush in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Drug cartel gunmen ambushed three SUVs along a dirt road, slaughtering six children and three women—all U.S. citizens living in northern Mexico—in a grisly attack that left one vehicle a burned-out, bullet-riddled hulk, authorities said Tuesday.

The dead included 8-month-old twins. Eight youngsters were found alive after escaping from the vehicles and hiding in the brush, but at least five had gunshot wounds or other injuries and were taken to the U.S. for treatment, officials said.

One woman was killed after she apparently jumped out of her vehicle and waved her hands to show she wasn't a threat, according to family members and prosecutors.

Mexican Security Secretary Alfonso Durazo said the gunmen may have mistaken the group's large SUVs for those of rival gangs.

The bloodshed took place Monday in a remote, mountainous area in northern Mexico where the Sinaloa cartel has been engaged in a turf war. The victims had set out to visit relatives in Mexico; one woman was headed to the airport in Phoenix to meet her husband.

While a drug-related violence has been raging for years in Mexico, the attack underscored the way cartel gunmen have become increasingly unconcerned about killing children as collateral damage. Around the am-



This combination of frames from Nov. 4, 2019, video by Kenny Miller and posted on the Twitter account of Alex LeBaron shows two views of a burned-out vehicle that was being used by some members of the LeBaron family as they were driving in a convoy near the Sonora-Chihuahua border in Mexico. Mexican authorities say drug cartel gunmen ambushed multiple vehicles, including this one, slaughtering several women and children.

bush scene, which stretched for miles, investigators found over 200 shell casings, mostly from assault rifles.

"Lately it's getting worse. This is a whole new level," said Taylor Langford, a relative of the dead who splits his time between the Mexican

community and his home in the Salt Lake City suburb of Herriman, Utah.

In a tweet, President Donald Trump offered to help Mexico "wage WAR on the drug cartels and wipe them off the face of the earth." But Mexican President Andrés Manuel López

Obrador rejected that approach, saying his predecessors waged war, "and it didn't work."

The victims lived in Sonora state, about 70 miles (110 kilometers) south of Douglas, Arizona, in the hamlet of La Mora, which was founded decades ago by an offshoot

of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Many La Mora residents call themselves Mormons but are not affiliated with the church.

A number of such American farming communities are clustered around the Chihuahua-Sonora state border. Many members were born in Mexico and have dual citizenship. While some of the splinter groups were once polygamous, many no longer are.

All of the victims were apparently related to the extended

LeBaron family in Chihuahua, whose members have run afoul of the drug traffickers over the years. Benjamin LeBaron, an anti-crime activist who founded neighborhood patrols against cartels, was killed in 2009.

"My younger boys went to school with two of those boys. They found out in school what had happened," said Brent LeBaron, a relative who was working construction in Montana when he received the news. "It was heartbreaking to hear their cries and sadness."

WORLD BRIEFS

Iran to fuel centrifuges in new step away from nuclear deal

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran will start injecting uranium gas into over a thousand centrifuges at a fortified nuclear facility built inside a mountain, the country's president announced Tuesday in Tehran's latest step away from its atomic accord with world powers since President Donald Trump withdrew from the deal over a year ago. President Hassan Rouhani's announcement means that Iran's Fordo nuclear facility, publicly revealed only 10 years ago, again will become an active atomic site rather than a research facility as envisioned by the landmark 2015 accord. The State Department announced days ago that it would renew a waiver allowing Russia's state-run Rosatom nuclear company to continue its conversion work at the site. The announcement represents a significant development as Fordo's 1,044 centrifuges previously spun empty for testing purposes under the deal.

Lawmakers from a range of parties, including the Johnson's Conservatives, urged the government to publish the report during a debate in the House of Commons. But Foreign Office minister Christopher Pincher argued it was "not unusual" for the review of such reports to "take some time." "It's not as if the prime minister has not had one or two other things to do during the last several weeks," he told the House of Commons. "It's not unusual that the turnaround time is what it is."

3 protesters killed in clashes as Iraq tries to reopen port

BAGHDAD (AP)—At least three anti-government protesters have been killed in clashes with security forces in southern Iraq, officials said Tuesday, as authorities tried to reopen the country's main port, which had been blocked by demonstrators for three days. Security and medical officials said a protester was killed and eight more were wounded in Umm Qasr, a key oil terminal on the Persian Gulf. The Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights, a semi-official agency, said two people were killed and 23 wounded in clashes in the town of Shatrah, north of the southern city of Nasiriyah. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to reporters, said security forces in Umm Qasr fired live ammunition and tear gas, and that protesters seized an armored vehicle. Video showed dozens of protesters running on a road near the port with gunfire crackling in the distance. "This is Iraqi blood on the ground!" one of the protesters screamed. "Iraqi blood is being spilled because of this rotten government."

UK government refuses to release report on Russian meddling

LONDON (AP)—Britain's government refused again Tuesday to publish a report into possible Russian interference in U.K. elections, arguing that Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government needs more time to properly scrutinize the document. The Intelligence and Security Committee report was sent to the prime minister on Oct. 17, and it needs government approval before it is made public. Unless the report is released by early Wednesday when Parliament is dissolved, it won't be made public before the December general election.

UK parties promise end to Brexit agony if they win election

LONDON (AP)—Britain's three major national political parties wooed weary voters on Tuesday, all promising an end to Brexit wrangling if they win next month's national election—but offering starkly different visions of how to achieve that.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson says if his Conservative Party wins the Dec. 12 poll, he will get Parliament to ratify his divorce deal with the European Union and Britain will leave the bloc by Jan. 31.

The main opposition Labour Party says it will take a bit longer—six months—to end more than three years of uncertainty triggered by voters' decision in 2016 to leave the 28-nation EU after more than four decades of membership.

Left-of-center Labour says if it wins, within six months it will negotiate a new Brexit divorce deal that keeps close relations between Britain and the EU, then hold a national referendum on whether to leave on those terms or remain in the bloc.

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn hasn't said which side he would support in such a referendum. Johnson urged him in an open letter Monday to "come clean and explain what your plan really is."

Corbyn insisted Tuesday that "Labour's plan for Brexit is clear and simple" and said he was right to try to appeal both to the 52% of voters who opted to leave the EU in 2016 and the 48% who wanted to remain.

"Anybody seeking to become prime minister must talk to and listen to the whole country," Corbyn told Labour supporters in Harlow, a town northeast of London that voted in 2016 to leave the EU. "Labour stands not just for the 52% or the 48%, but for the 99%."

Corbyn said "the Brexit crisis needs to be resolved but it must be done democratically."

Meanwhile, the centrist, pro-EU Liberal Democrats are trying to lure voters away from the bigger parties with a promise to scrap Brexit altogether. They said Tuesday

that ending the economic uncertainty around Brexit would boost the economy and allow the government to put another 50 billion pounds (\$64 billion)—what they call a "remain bonus"—into public services.

The party currently has just 20 of the 650 seats in Parliament, but leader Jo Swinson said Tuesday that this election "is a moment for seismic change."

"This is not a normal election," she told supporters in London. "It's not a typical choice about whether you want the red team or the blue team (Labour or the Conservatives) to be in government for a few more years. . . Because on this issue they merge into one."

On the other side of the U.K.'s divide over Europe, the newly formed Brexit Party led by Nigel Farage wants British voters to reject Johnson's Brexit deal and leave the bloc without an agreement on future trade. It is seeking to woo Brexit-backing voters from both the Conservatives and Labour.

Some 46 million people are

eligible to vote in Britain's Dec. 12 election, with all 650 House of Commons seats up for grabs.

While voters may hope the election brings an end to Brexit uncertainty, they are likely to be disappointed. Britain faces more big decisions and looming deadlines.

Once the U.K. leaves the EU, it will have to negotiate a new trade deal with the bloc, its biggest trading partner.

Michel Barnier, the EU's chief Brexit negotiator, said Tuesday that post-Brexit talks on a free trade deal with the U.K. might be as tough as the negotiations that have taken place over the past three years.

EU officials worry that Britain will try to transform itself into a low-regulation economy that would undercut stringent EU social, environmental and workplace standards.

Corbyn made a similar claim, accusing the Conservatives of seeking "a race to the bottom in standards and protections."

Focus

In last days, al-Baghdadi sought safety in shrinking domain

By SARAH EL DEEB
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIRUT (AP)—In his last months on the run, Islamic State group leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi was agitated, fearful of traitors, sometimes disguised as a shepherd, sometimes hiding underground, always dependent on a shrinking circle of confidants.

Associates paint a picture of a man obsessed with his security and well-being and trying to find safety in towns and deserts in eastern Syria near the Iraqi border as the extremists' domains crumbled. In the end, the brutal leader once hailed as "caliph" left former IS areas completely, slipping into hostile territory in Syria's northwestern Idlib province run by the radical group's al-Qaida-linked rivals. There, he blew himself up during an Oct. 26 raid by U.S. special forces on his heavily fortified safe house.

For months, he kept a Yazidi teen as a slave, and she told The Associated Press how he brought her along as he moved, traveling with a core group of up to seven close associates. Months ago, he delegated most of his powers to a senior deputy who is likely the man announced by the group as his successor.

The Yazidi girl, who was freed in a U.S.-led raid in May, said al-Baghdadi first tried to

flee to Idlib in late 2017. She said one night she was loaded into a three-vehicle convoy that included the IS leader, his wife and his security entourage, headed for the province. The convoy reached a main road but then turned around, apparently fearing it would come under attack, said the girl, who was 17 at the time.

For about a week they stayed in the southeastern Syrian town of Hajin, near the Iraqi border. Then they moved north to Dashiha, another border town in Syria within IS-held territory.

There, the Yazidi teen stayed for four months at the home of al-Baghdadi's father-in-law, a close aide named Abu Abdullah al-Zubaie. Al-Baghdadi would visit her there frequently and rape her and at times beat her, the teen said. He would only move at night, wearing sneakers and covering his face, always with around five security men who addressed him as "hajji" or "sheikh," she said. The AP does not identify victims of sexual assault.

"When I asked him anything, he would not give me an answer for security reasons. Not everyone knew where he was," she said.

In the spring of 2018, she was given to another man, who took her out of Dashiha. That was the last time she saw al-Baghdadi, though he sent

her a piece of jewelry as a gift, the teen said.

It appears al-Baghdadi then moved from place to place in eastern Syria for the next year as one IS stronghold after another fell to U.S.-backed Kurdish-led forces, before heading to Idlib sometime in the spring.

During that time, al-Baghdadi was a "nervous wreck," pacing up and down and complaining of treason and infiltrations among his "walis," or governors of the group's self-declared provinces, his brother-in-law, Mohamad Ali Sajit, said in an interview with Al-Arabiya TV aired last week.

"This is all treason," Sajit recalled al-Baghdadi shouting.

Sajit, an Iraqi who was married to another of al-Zubaie's daughters, was arrested by Iraqi authorities in June. He said he saw al-Baghdadi several times over 18 months, starting in Hajin in late 2017. The last time was in the desert regions along the Syrian-Iraqi border not long before Sajit's own capture. He said al-Baghdadi entrusted him with delivering messages on flash drives to lieutenants inside Iraq.

Iraqi and Syrian Kurdish officials have said they separately cultivated sources that led to the IS leader, and Sajit is believed to be one of them. A U.S. official said it seemed the Syrian Kurds managed to get a "guest" inside al-Baghdadi's

inner circle whose information was key in the hunt.

Sajit said al-Baghdadi's movements were heavily restricted, more so as greater IS territory was lost. He walked around with a suicide belt, even slept with one near him, and made his aides also carry belts. He never used a cellphone; only his aide Abu Hassan al-Muhajer did, using a Galaxy 7, said Sajit, who remains in Iraqi custody.

The stress worsened the IS leader's diabetes, and he had to constantly monitor his blood sugar and take insulin. He didn't fast during the holy month of Ramadan and forced his aides not to fast as well, Sajit said.

At times, al-Baghdadi was disguised as a shepherd, he said. When al-Baghdadi's security chief, Abu Sabah, got wind of a possible raid on the desert Syrian-Iraqi border area where they were hiding they took down their tents and hid al-Baghdadi and al-Muhajer inside a pit covered with dirt, Sajit said. They let sheep roam around on top of the pit to further disguise it. Once the threat of the raid was over, they returned and put the tents back up, he said.

Al-Baghdadi moved with a circle of five to seven people, including al-Muhajer, al-Zubaie and Abu Sabah; and the group's former governor for Iraq, known as Tayseer or

Abu al-Hakim. Al-Muhajer was killed on the same day as al-Baghdadi, in a separate U.S.-led military operation, following a Syrian Kurdish tip, in Jarablus, also in northwestern Syria; al-Zubaie was killed in a raid in March. On Monday, Turkish officials said they arrested al-Baghdadi's older sister in northwestern Syria's Azaz region. All are areas outside of government control.

The IS leader was also in contact with his top deputy, Hajji Abdullah, Sajit said. Iraqi officials say al-Baghdadi put him in charge of most of the group's administrative and financial affairs. Sajit said he believes Hajji Abdullah is actually the man that IS named as al-Baghdadi's successor before his killing, identified by the nom de guerre Abu Ibrahim al-Hashemi Al-Qurayshi.

U.S. officials said they did not know when al-Baghdadi arrived in Idlib but said he chose the location because it was the last territory outside of Syrian government control. U.S.-allied Syrian Kurdish officials said they pinned down his movements in May but suspected he left to there after the fall of the last IS territory in late March.

There, he hid in a compound in the village of Barisha, about 5 kilometers (3 miles) from the border with Turkey. Like many of Idlib's border towns, it is packed with people dis-

AP
This image released by the Department of Defense on Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019, and displayed at a Pentagon briefing, shows an image of Islamic State leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

placed from across Syria and is administered by Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, a militant group affiliated with al-Qaida and a rival to IS.

The compound belonged to a man named Abu Mohammed al-Halabi, who was a sheep trader but had little contact with his neighbors, several residents told the AP. They spoke on condition of anonymity fearing they would be endangered by talking about the site. Iraqi officials said al-Baghdadi's "technician"—a man who took care of logistics—was killed with him in the raid.

One resident said that nearly a dozen helicopters hovered over their village before 11 p.m. the night of the Oct. 26 U.S.-led raid.

"We went out in the balcony to see and they started shooting, with automatic rifles. So we went inside and hid," the resident said. Then there was an airborne operation west of the village, in the direction of al-Halabi's house. Later, the Americans warned residents to move away from the house because they were going to blow it up.

"No one really expected al-Baghdadi to be here," another resident said.

Environment

KINIGI, Rwanda (AP)—Deep in the rainforest of Volcanoes National Park, a 23-year-old female gorilla named Kurudi feeds on a stand of wild celery. She bends the green stalks and, with long careful fingers, peels off the exterior skin to expose the succulent inside.

Biologist Jean Paul Hirwa notes her meal on his tablet computer as he peers out from behind a nearby stand of stinging nettles.

The large adult male sitting next to her, known as a silverback, looks at him quizzically. Hirwa makes a low hum — “ahh-mmm” — imitating the gorillas’ usual sound of reassurance.

“I’m here,” Hirwa is trying to say. “It’s OK. No reason to worry.”

Hirwa and the two great apes are all part of the world’s longest-running gorilla study — a project begun in 1967 by famed American primatologist Dian Fossey.

Yet Fossey herself, who died in 1985, would likely be surprised any mountain gorillas are still left to study. Alarmed by rising rates of poaching and deforestation in central Africa, she predicted the species could go extinct by 2000.

Instead, a concerted and sustained conservation campaign has averted the worst and given a second chance to these great apes, which share about 98% of human DNA. Last fall, the Switzerland-based International Union for Conservation of Nature changed the status of mountain gorillas from “critically endangered” to “endangered,” an improved if still-fragile designation.

It wouldn’t have happened without an intervention some biologists call “extreme con-



In this Sept. 2, 2019 photo, a silverback mountain gorilla named Segasira looks up as he lies under a tree in the Volcanoes National Park, Rwanda. The late American primatologist Dian Fossey, who began the world’s longest-running gorilla study here in 1967, would likely be surprised any mountain gorillas are left to study. Alarmed by rising rates of poaching and deforestation in central Africa, she predicted the species could go extinct by 2000.

How do you save ENDANGERED GORILLAS? With lots of human help

By CHRISTINA LARSON
AP Science Writer

servation,” which has entailed monitoring every single gorilla in the rainforest, periodically giving them veterinary care and funding forest protection by sending money into com-

munities that might otherwise resent not being able to convert the woods into cropland.

Instead of disappearing, the number of mountain gorillas — a subspecies of eastern go-

rilla — has risen from 680 a decade ago to just over 1,000 today. Their population is split between two regions, including mist-covered defunct volcanoes within Congo, Uganda and Rwanda — one of Africa’s smallest and most densely populated countries.

“The population of mountain gorillas is still vulnerable,” says George Schaller, a renowned biologist and gorilla expert. “But their numbers are now growing, and that’s remarkable.”

Once depicted in legends and films like “King Kong” as fearsome beasts, gorillas are actually languid primates that eat only plants and insects, and live in fairly stable, extended family groups. Their strength and chest-thumping displays are generally reserved for contests between male rivals.

Every week, scientists like Hirwa, who works for the nonprofit conservation group the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund, gather data as part of long-

term behavioral research.

If they see any health problems in the gorillas, they inform the staff at Gorillas Doctors, a nongovernmental group whose veterinarians work in the forest. The vets monitor wounds and signs of respiratory infections, but intervene only sparingly.

When they do, they almost never remove the animals from the mountain.

“Our hospital is the forest,” says Jean Bosco Noheli, a veterinarian at Gorilla Doctors. When his team goes into the field to address a gorilla emergency, they must carry everything they might need in equipment bags weighing up to 100 pounds — including portable X-ray machines.

Schaller conducted the first detailed studies of mountain gorillas in the 1950s and early ‘60s. He also was the first to discover that wild gorillas could, over time, become comfortable with periodic human presence, a boon to researchers and, later, tourists.

Today, highly regulated tour groups hike in the Rwandan rainforest to watch gorillas.

Ticket revenue pays for operating costs and outstrips what might have been made from converting the rainforest to potato farms and cattle pastures. About 40% of the forest already was cleared for agriculture in the early 1970s.

“With tourism, the tension is always not to overexploit,” says Dirck Byler, great ape conservation director at the nonprofit Global Wildlife Conservation, which is not involved in the Rwanda gorilla project. “But in Rwanda, so far they’re careful, and it’s working.”

The idea of using tourism to help fund conservation was contentious when conservationists Bill Weber and Amy Vedder first proposed it while living in Rwanda during the 1970s and ‘80s. Fossey herself was skeptical, but the pair persisted.

“The wonder of the gorillas’ lives, their curiosity, their social interactions — we felt that’s something that could be accessible to others, through careful tourism,” Vedder says.

Figuring out the balance of how many people could visit the forest, and for how long, was a delicate process of trial and error, Weber says.

In 2005, the Rwandan government adopted a model to steer 5% of tourism revenue from Volcanoes National Park to build infrastructure in surrounding villages, including schools and health clinics. Two years ago, the share was raised to 10%.

To date, about \$2 million has gone into funding village projects, chief park warden Prosper Uwingeli says.

“We don’t want to protect the park with guns. We want to protect and conserve this park with people who understand why, and who take responsibility,” he says.

The money from tourism helps, but the region is still poor.

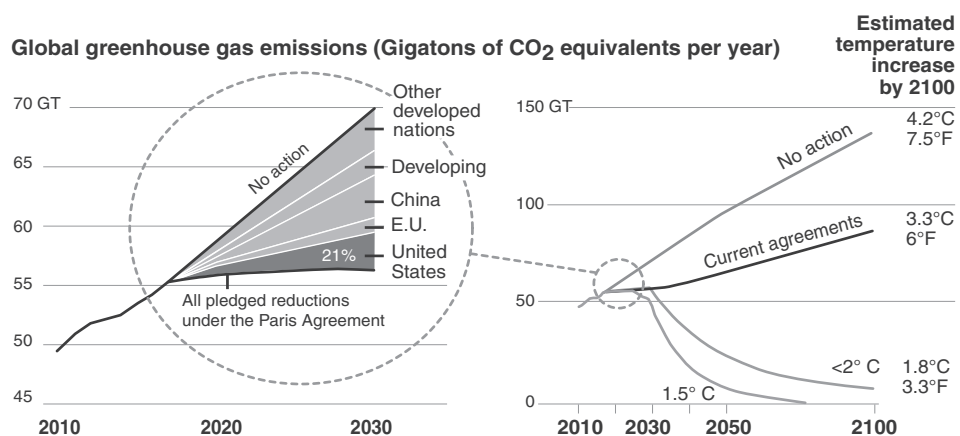
Jean Claude Masengesho lives with his parents and helps them farm potatoes. About once a week, the 21-year-old earns a little extra money helping tourists carry their bags up the mountain, totaling about \$45 a month. He would someday like to become a tour guide, which could earn him about \$320 monthly.

The obstacle is that most tour guides have attended college, and Masengesho isn’t sure how his family can afford tuition.

“It’s my dream, but it’s very hard,” he says. “In this village, every young person’s dream is to work in the park.”

How important is U.S. cooperation to the Paris Agreement?

The Paris Agreement’s central aim is to keep a global temperature rise this century below 2 degrees Celsius and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The agreement by itself is not sufficient to meet the 2-degree goal; negotiators hoped to strengthen the nations’ commitments over time. The U.S. emissions reduction pledge under the agreement accounts for more than a fifth of all emissions avoided through 2030 (21% of the total pledged by all nations).



If US emissions follow the business-as-usual scenario instead of meeting the Paris pledge, while all other countries fulfill their commitments (and no further action is taken), it’s estimated the world would warm an additional 0.3°C (about one-half a degree Fahrenheit) by 2100.

Source: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Climate Interactive

Graphic: Dallas Morning News/TNS

Life & Style

Bosnian war survivors protest Peter Handke's Nobel prize win

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)—Bosnian war survivors, including mothers who lost husbands and sons in the Srebrenica massacre, protested Tuesday in Sarajevo, urging the Nobel Committee to reverse its decision to award the 2019 Nobel Prize in literature to Austrian writer Peter Handke.

Protesters gathered outside the Swedish embassy in downtown Sarajevo carrying banners with slogans comparing Handke with Serbian strongman Slobodan Milosevic and Bosnian Serb war-time leaders Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic.

All three former Serb leaders were tried for genocide before a U.N. tribunal handling war crimes from Bosnia's 1992-95 war. Milosevic died in 2006 before the end of his trial, while Karadzic and Mladic were convicted and imprisoned for life.

Handke, 76, has long faced criticism for his vigorous defense of the Serbs during the 1990s wars that devastated the Balkans as Yugoslavia disintegrated. He even spoke at Milosevic's 2006 funeral, calling him "a rather tragic man." And despite U.N. court rulings to the contrary, Handke has persistently denied that genocide

took place in Bosnia's 1995 Srebrenica massacre.

Bosnian Muslim women whose husbands and sons were slain at Srebrenica joined the protest, carrying Handke's photo with the words "awarding Handke equals awarding war crimes" written over it.

Protester Murat Tahirovic urged the Nobel Committee to reverse its decision.

"(Handke) supported war criminals, he does not deserve the (Nobel)," said Tahirovic, a member of a survivors' group for Bosnian Serb war-time torture camps.

The protest was timed to coincide with an official three-day visit to Bosnia by Swedish Crown Princess Victoria and Prince Daniel, who were expected later Tuesday.

More than 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys were killed in days of slaughter after the U.N.-protected enclave of Srebrenica was overrun by Bosnian Serb forces on July 11, 1995. It is the only episode of Bosnia's war to be defined as genocide by two U.N. courts.

Serbs hastily disposed of the victims' bodies in several large pits, then dug them up again and scattered the remains over the nearly 100 smaller mass graves and hidden burial sites around the town.

ABC says interview with Epstein accuser isn't ready to broadcast

NEW YORK (AP)—ABC News faced questions Tuesday about its reluctance to air a sensitive story of alleged sexual misconduct after a leaked video emerged of reporter Amy Robach complaining about how her bosses handled an interview with a Jeffrey Epstein accuser.

The conservative web site Project Veritas released video of Robach venting that "every day I get more and more pissed" that her 2015 interview with Virginia Giuffre never made the air. Robach made her remarks late in August while sitting in a Times Square studio with a microphone but not on the air.

ABC said Tuesday that the interview didn't meet its standards because it lacked sufficient corroborating evidence. Robach, co-anchor of ABC's "20/20" newsmagazine, said the leaked video caught her "in a private moment of frustration."

The episode was reminiscent of Ronan Farrow's accusations that NBC News discouraged his reporting on

Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein's misconduct. Farrow then took his Pulitzer Prize-winning story to the New Yorker magazine.

ABC sought to minimize the comparison, saying it has pursued and aired other stories about Epstein, the New York financier who died Aug. 10 while in police custody on sex trafficking charges.

Project Veritas is known for its efforts embarrass mainstream media outlets, often sending undercover reporters to catch employees making statements that display an anti-conservative bent. But it needed no such help with the Robach video, which Project Veritas said came from an "ABC insider" it would not identify.

The correspondent was visibly exasperated as she complained that "I tried for three years to get (the interview) on to no avail and now it's coming out and it's like these 'new revelations' and I freaked out."



Robach

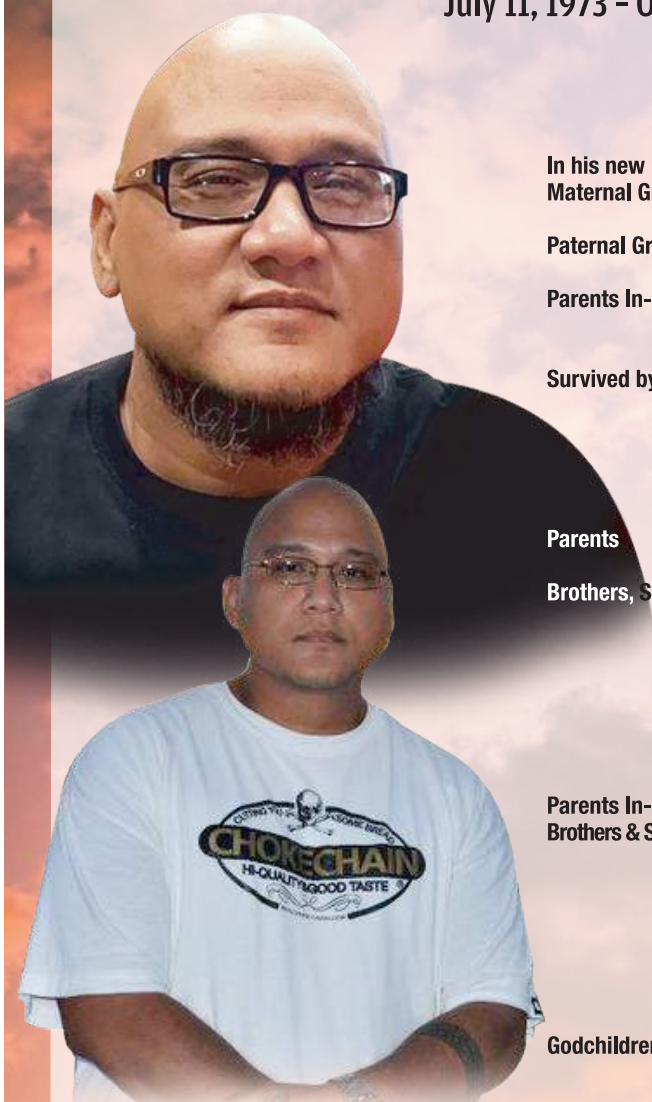


Bosnian women whose male family members, including sons and husbands, perished in the Srebrenica massacre hold placards as they protest outside Swedish embassy in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019. AP

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

GLENN MANGLONA DELEON GUERRERO

Lovingly Known as "G or Glenn Paduna"
July 11, 1973 - October 27, 2019



In his new life he now joins his:

Maternal Grandparents: †Manuel Ada Manglona
†Juana Manglona Manglona
Paternal Grandparents: †Juan Guerrero Deleon Guerrero (Nong)
†Guadalupe Rogolifoi Deleon Guerrero
Parents In-Law: †Juan Santos Dela Cruz (Doi)
†Juana Jones Castro-Dela Cruz (Juanet)

Survived by the Loves of his Life, Spouse & Children:

Dolly Jean Castro Tkel
Latreil Antoine T. Deleon Guerrero
Sohayla Juanette T. Deleon Guerrero
Aisha Kyleigh T. Deleon Guerrero
Lorenzo Glenn T. Deleon Guerrero
Pedro Rogolifoi Deleon Guerrero (Paduna)
Pilar Manglona Deleon Guerrero (Pi)
Parents
Brothers, Sisters & In-Law: Peter M. Deleon Guerrero & Children
John & Arlene DLG. Carbullido,
Children & Grandchildren
John Anthony M. Deleon Guerrero & Eva P. Calvo
Rainier Pedro Deleon Guerrero & Children
Lawrence Deleon Guerrero & Children
Ivan & Betty DLG. Ichiro, Children & Grandchildren

Parents In-Law: Knox N. Tkel & Francisca T. Paige
Brothers & Sister In-Law: Anthony C. Tenorio /Jennifer C. Tkel & Children
Michael C. & Lorraine B. Tkel,
Children & Grandchildren
Alexander C. & Jerrica L. Tkel & Children
Marty N. & Gwendolyn T. Taisacan,
Children & Grandchildren
Richard C. Dela Cruz

Godchildren: Anthony C. Tenorio II, Justin John Carbullido,
Noah Peter Mesa, Logan Deleon Guerrero
Elizah Skye Farnsworth

He is also survived by his numerous uncles, aunties, cousins and friends.

Mass is being offered for the repose of his soul every morning at 6:00 AM and Rosary nightly at 7:00 PM at Kristo Rai Church with the exception of Tuesday, rosary will be said at 6:00 PM.

Funeral Services will be held on Saturday, November 09, 2019. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30 AM. Responso Service will be at 8:00 AM followed by recitation of the Holy Rosary at 8:30 AM.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 AM followed by Interment Services at Chalan kanoa Cemetery, where he will be laid to a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,
Thank you - Si Yu'us Ma'ase

DOLLY, LATREL, SOHAYLA, AISHA, AND LORENZO

'Goodness and humor' celebrated as 'Sesame Street' turns 50

NEW YORK (AP)—Fifty years ago, beloved entertainer Carol Burnett appeared on the very first broadcast of a quirky TV program that featured a bunch of furry puppets.

Blink and you might miss it, but Burnett followed a cartoon about a witch called Wanda, which was loaded with words beginning with the letter w.

"Wow, Wanda the Witch is weird," Burnett commented. And then—poof—she was gone.

That show was "Sesame Street" and Burnett, like a lot of kids, was instantly hooked. She would return to the show multiple times, including visits to demonstrate to pre-school viewers where her nose was and to smooch a rubber duckie.

"I was a big fan. I would have done anything they wanted me to do," she said. "I loved being exposed to all that goodness and humor."

This first episode of "Sesame Street"—sponsored by the letters W, S and E and the numbers 2 and 3—aired in the fall of 1969. It was a turbulent time in America, rocked by the Vietnam War and raw from the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King the year before. The media, like today, was going through disruption.

Newt Minow, who was the Federal Communications Commission chairman at the time, famously said TV was becoming "a vast wasteland." Like today, there was lots of



This image released by HBO shows characters, from left, Abby Cadabby, Elmo and Big Bird in a scene from "Sesame Street."

HBO VIA AP

content, but it wasn't necessarily quality.

Enter "Sesame Street" creators Joan Ganz Cooney and Lloyd Morrisett, who worked with Harvard University developmental psychologist Gerald Lesser to build the show's unique approach to teaching that now reaches 120 million children. Legendary puppeteer Jim Henson supplied the critters.

"It wasn't about if kids were learning from TV, it was about what they were learning from TV," said Steve Youngwood, the chief operating officer of Sesame Workshop. "If they could harness that power to teach them the alphabet and their numbers as opposed to the words to beer commercials, you may be able to make a really big difference."

No one else was doing it.

Children's programming at the time was made up of shows like "Captain Kangaroo," "Romper Room" and the violent skirmishes between "Tom & Jerry." "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" was lovely, but it was mostly teaching social skills.

"There was nothing even remotely that contained any educational component at all for children," said Phillip

Levine, a professor of economics at Wellesley College who has studied the show. "'Sesame Street' was 100% about education."

The show was designed by education professionals and child psychologists with one goal: to help low-income and minority students aged 2-5 overcome some of the deficiencies they had when entering school. Social scien-

tists had long noted white and higher income kids were often better prepared.

So, it wasn't an accident that the show was set on an urban street with a multicultural cast. Diversity and inclusion were baked into the show. Monsters, humans and animals all lived together peacefully.

Bert, Ernie and the gang made an instant impression on actress Sonia Manzano. She saw a neighborhood that looked like hers. She saw people who looked like her. She would become a cast member, Maria, on the show, starring and writing for it from 1971-2015, including getting married on air.

"I was raised without seeing people of color on television. So, when I was given the opportunity to be a person of color on television, I jumped at it," said Manzano, who is of Latino descent. "And I think I was successful as Maria because I never forgot that there could be a little kid like me watching television and forming ideas about the world."

Over the years, "Sesame Street" has welcomed many more. It became the first children's program to feature someone with Down syndrome. It's had puppets with HIV and in foster care, invited children in wheelchairs, dealt with topics like jailed parents, homelessness, women's rights, military families and even girls singing about loving their hair.

In 'Doctor Sleep,' a filmmaker reconciles 'The Shining' rift

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Filmmaker Mike Flanagan knew his vision to fuse Stanley Kubrick's "The Shining" with Stephen King's 2013 sequel "Doctor Sleep" would be a hard sell with the author. King's disdain for the 1980 adaptation is well-known and has not abated with time.

"No, no," Flanagan said, shaking his head with a defeated laugh. "He has not eased up."

Even so, Kubrick's imagery is all over "Doctor Sleep," which is centered on an adult Danny Torrance, played by Ewan McGregor. Yet somehow the film, which opens nationwide Thursday night, has already gotten the stamp of approval from both King and the Kubrick estate.

And it's all thanks Flanagan, who wrote, directed and edited "Doctor Sleep," and had been wrestling with the paradox of both being a "King fanatic" and worshipping the film since he was a kid.

"I always had this ache," Flanagan said.

When he picked up "Doctor Sleep," the words were King's but the images that popped in his head were Kubrick's. But



This image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Ewan McGregor in a scene from "Doctor Sleep."

WARNER BROS. PICTURES VIA AP

then he started thinking about how he could reconcile the two and he and his producer set out on a years-long journey to make that happen.

Warner Bros. had the rights to the book, which was already in development with a different writer. But by the time Flanagan got in the door, with an adaptation of King's "Gerald's Game" under his

belt, the studio was open to his take, which would involve a pretty significant change from the novel: Going back to the Overlook Hotel.

When he first asked King for permission to meld the book and Kubrick's film, the author said no. But then he explained one scene he'd been dreaming up—set in the hotel at the bar—that he thought would ad-

dress King's primary criticism that the film didn't do justice to the arc of the Torrance family. Suddenly, King's answer changed to "go ahead."

Not only was the author supportive, but the Kubrick Estate was too. They offered access to original footage (Flanagan ended up using three shots: One of an island in a canyon and two of a car driving up the winding mountain road) as well as the original blueprints for the sets. The "Doctor Sleep" team would use these to reconstruct places like The Gold Room and The Colorado Lounge on a soundstage in Atlanta that had everyone downright giddy.

"I just started grinning. It's like walking into your own memory," Flanagan said. "The hope was that if we could transfer a percentage of that to the viewer than this is a movie worth making."

Some cast and crew even got sticky fingers. Flanagan walked off with an ax and a few other things. And Rebecca Ferguson, who plays the villain "Rose the Hat," swiped five pages of paper from the desk that say, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

Trump Jr. claims JFK wouldn't fit in the modern Democratic Party

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Trump Jr. claimed Tuesday that the modern-day Democratic Party has moved so far left it would have rejected President John F. Kennedy as an "alt-right, neo-Nazi terrorist."

The president's son launched the broadside against Democrats during an interview on Fox News to promote his newly published book, "Triggered: How the Left Thrives on Hate and Wants to Silence Us."

"The reality is this isn't your grandfather's Democrat Party," Trump Jr. said in the interview. "If you look at their party platform, it's not for working-class Americans. You know, JFK would be an alt-right neo-Nazi terrorist, according to them today."

President Donald Trump and his allies have repeatedly claimed that the Democratic Party is too liberal for the average American, deriding self-professed democratic socialist Bernie Sanders and liberal freshmen Democrats in the House, like New

York's Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez and Minnesota's Ilhan Omar.

Trump Jr. did a round of television interviews to promote his new book a day after his father took to Twitter to urge his 66.5 million followers to "Go order it today!" Trump has accused former Vice President Joe Biden's son of profiting off his father's office.

Trump Jr. also revealed that his father, who frequently posts controversial comments on Twitter, has suggested at moments that he tone down what he's posting on social media.

"Every once while, I'll get that call like, 'Hey, you're getting a little hot on social,'" Trump Jr. said, recalling conversations with his father. "I go, 'Wait a minute.' I will take your advice. I will take your advice on anything. ... But I was like this may be the one place where I'm just going to say I'm on my own and maybe, you know, you don't have the authority to start talking about this."

Alec Baldwin sues man who accused him of parking spot rage

NEW YORK (AP)—Alec Baldwin filed a defamation lawsuit Friday against the man who says Baldwin hit him in the face during an argument over a New York City parking space.

Baldwin wrote in his lawsuit that contractor Wojciech Cieszkowski's claim that he was violently assaulted by the actor is "objectively false."

"When two New Yorkers get into an argument over a parking space, typically what happens is they exchange a

few sharp words and then move on with their lives," Baldwin wrote in the suit filed in Manhattan state Supreme Court. "But that is not what happened here."

The lawsuit says Cieszkowski made up a false story about the skirmish in an effort to extort money from Baldwin. "Hospital records and video surveillance footage prove that it was a lie,"



Baldwin

the complaint says. "But Cieszkowski told it to the police and medical professionals anyway."

Police arrested Baldwin after the Nov. 2, 2018, scuffle over a parking spot in front of Baldwin's Manhattan apartment building. The actor pleaded guilty to harassment in January and agreed to take an anger-management class.

Cieszkowski sued Baldwin claiming that Baldwin's assault was "physically painful and psychologically traumatic."

The Pearl River, New York resident referenced Baldwin's recurring "Saturday Night Live" role as President Donald Trump in his lawsuit filed in March and amended May 17. "When you're a star, they let you do it—hit 'em right in the face," the lawsuit said. "Like the man he plays on television, Alec Baldwin is an

entitled celebrity with a long history of verbally and physically mistreating others he sees as beneath him."

Baldwin wrote in the lawsuit that he "lightly pushed Cieszkowski in the chest with one hand" but did not seriously injure him.

"In fact, Cieszkowski's supposed 'injuries' were so minor, or nonexistent, that his discharge instructions were to take a single dose of Tylenol," the

former "30 Rock" star wrote.

Douglas Lieb, a lawyer for Cieszkowski, called Baldwin's lawsuit "a desperate tactic designed to silence Mr. Cieszkowski."

"Mr. Cieszkowski won't be deterred from holding Mr. Baldwin accountable for his bullying," Lieb said Tuesday. "Mr. Cieszkowski looks forward to his day in court before a jury of ordinary people like him."

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Spanx founder buys Olivia Newton-John's 'Grease' pants

NEW YORK (AP)—The founder of Spanx was revealed to be the successful bidder for the skintight satin pants that Olivia Newton-John wore in the movie "Grease." Sara Blakely told "CBS This Morning" Tuesday she plans to frame the pants and hang them at Spanx's headquarters in Atlanta because they inspired the company's black faux-leather leggings. Blakely bid \$162,500 for the pants, which Newton-John had to be sewn into for the 1978 film. Blakely says she is huge fan of Newton-John, who sang at Blakely's wedding. Newton-John says she's excited Blakely purchased them. Julien's Auctions says the leather jacket that Newton-John's character, Sandy, wore fetched \$243,200, bringing the total for the outfit to \$405,700. The proceeds from the jacket and pants, as well as a portion of the other items sold, will go to the Olivia Newton-John Cancer Wellness & Research Centre in Australia.

Annette Bening to receive AARP Movies for Grownups award

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Annette Bening will receive AARP the Magazine's lifetime achievement honor at the Movies for Grownups Awards next year. The magazine announced Tuesday that Bening will accept the career achievement award at the ceremony on January 11, 2020 in Beverly Hills, California. The 19th annual Movies for Grownups Awards will air January 19 on PBS. The ceremony honors and advocates for "the 50-plus audience." Bening won Golden Globe awards for best actress for the 2004 film "Being Julia" and 2010's "The Kids Are All Right." She's also a four-time Oscar nominee, including for the 1999 film "American Beauty." Previous career achievement honorees include Shirley MacLaine, Michael Douglas, Morgan Freeman, Kevin Costner and Robert De Niro.

Sheryl Crow and Bruce Springsteen help raise money for vets

NEW YORK (AP)—Sheryl

Crow and Bruce Springsteen hit the stage together to help raise over \$5.7 million at this year's Stand Up for Heroes fundraiser, which benefits injured veterans and their families. The two musicians were joined at the Monday night event at the Hulu Theater at Madison Square Garden by Ronny Chieng, Hasan Minhaj, John Oliver and Jon Stewart. Crow and Springsteen made a duet of "Redemption Day." Stand Up for Heroes was first held in 2007 and is produced by the New York Comedy Festival and the Bob Woodruff Foundation. Woodruff was nearly killed during a 2006 attack in Iraq while embedded with U.S. troops for ABC News.

Deadspin supervisor leaving, too, after staff quits

NEW YORK (AP)—Days after the entire staff of the popular website Deadspin quit in a revolt, the manager who prompted the exodus said Tuesday that he's leaving, too. Paul Maidment, editorial director of G/O Media said it was "the right moment

for me to leave to pursue an entrepreneurial opportunity." Sixteen staff writers and editors, along with two weekend contributors, quit in protest of G/O Media's edict that the website stick to covering sports and cast aside stories on politics, popular culture and the media. The site's former editor in chief, Megan Greenwell, had quit in August after complaining about management. A deputy editor, Barry Petchesky, said last week that he had been fired for refusing the order to "stick to sports." Maidment also supervised sister websites like Gizmodo, The Root and Jezebel that were bought earlier this year by the financial equity firm Great Hills Partners. Several of the sites were part of Gawker Media, which had declared bankruptcy and shut down. Maidment said in a statement that "I am certain that the sites will grow and thrive in the future." On Tuesday afternoon, the last posting on Deadspin—a story about former NFL tight end Kellen Winslow's plea deal—had been there since the night before.

Shakira plans a Latin tribute at upcoming Super Bowl

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Colombian music star Shakira says she will pay homage to Latin culture alongside Jennifer Lopez at the 2020 Pepsi Super Bowl Halftime Show in Miami.



Shakira

Speaking Monday in Barcelona, Spain where she lives with her long-term partner, Spanish soccer star Gerard Piqué, and their two children, Shakira told The Associated Press she was fulfilling a dream which also had "a very important purpose."

"To celebrate that culture, to showcase it in a country where Latinos have also struggled a lot," she said. "I feel really humbled and with a great responsibility in my hands to represent the Latino community."

The Grammy winner, who turns 43 on Feb. 2, the day of the Super Bowl, is currently promoting a documentary and live concert album from her 2018 "El Dorado World Tour," to be released worldwide on Nov. 13.

In late 2017, Shakira left fans worried after she was forced to postpone the Euro-

pean part of the tour due to a vocal cord hemorrhage.

"That was probably one of the most difficult times of my life. It was really a nightmare," she recalled. "I didn't know if I was ever going to sing again."

At the time, doctors recommended surgery that carried risks. Shakira chose not to have it, and her voice slowly recovered. But it meant she couldn't speak for long periods of time—a real challenge for a mother of two young children.

"I healed miraculously, really, because the doctors were convinced I needed a medical procedure," she said, adding that without support from her fans she wouldn't have been able to return to the stage.

"I felt so much gratitude, so much joy to be able to sing again," she said. "I think at some point in my life I had taken it for granted."

But the singer has not slowed down since releasing last month a remix of the song "Tutu" with singers Camilo from Colombian and Pedro Capó of Puerto Rico.

Woman fears for the future if boyfriend becomes a cop

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend and I have been dating for a year. He's amazing, and I can see myself marrying him and having a family one day. There is only one problem. We are healthy in our arguments EXCEPT when his job is brought up. He's applying to go into the police academy.

I have always told people I would never be with a cop because of my own anxiety. We fight about this all the time, and while I don't ask him to find something else to do, it's kind of implied. I don't mean to be like that (or do I?) because I want him to be happy and do what he wants, but I also am terrified his job won't end well.

He asks why I am even dating him, and the honest truth is because he is an amazing man who truly does right by people. I love him. But do you think he is right? Is this something that can be overcome?

JUST ONE THING IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR JUST ONE THING: It takes a particular kind of person—a very strong one—to marry a partner who is in the military or in law enforcement. The physical danger can create additional stress in relationships.

You cannot and should not dictate what your boyfriend's job should be. If he thinks he can find emotional satisfaction in police work—provided he completes his training—he should give it a try. If you don't think you can handle the

stress of kissing him goodbye and being unsure that he will come home from work, then you are not the woman for him.

DEAR ABBY: My friend of 30 years had knee replacement surgery 15 years ago. She is fully recovered, goes to the gym three days each week and walks three miles on the treadmill. She still has (and gets renewed each doctor visit) her handicap parking card. Whenever we go anywhere and park, she always whips out her card and uses the handicap parking spots, even when there are multiple other spots available.

She's extremely religious, and I cannot understand how she doesn't realize this is morally wrong. I have spoken to her about it, but she still does it. I am not a perfect person either, but this really bothers me. What do you think?

STYMIED IN THE SOUTH

DEAR STYMIED: I think your friend should be ashamed of herself for abusing the privilege. And I also think the doctor who is aiding and abetting her in this fraud is equally at fault.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 22 years. My husband is 60 and retired from the military. Ever since I have known him, he has always needed recognition and pats on the back, which I have tried to supply. However, over the past three years, it has become hard to put up with. He wants lots of

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

applause for any accomplishments and posts daily announcements on Facebook, which have become an embarrassment. It's childish! I suspect his Facebook friends feel obligated to affirm how good their friend is. Should I mention that he needs to go lighter on his praise-fishing expeditions or remain quiet?

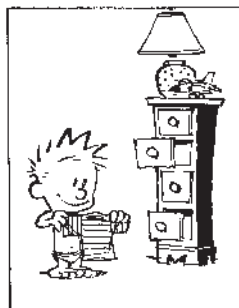
EMBARRASSED IN OKLAHOMA

DEAR EMBARRASSED: For the time being, remain quiet. If your husband starts to notice that he's beginning to lose Facebook friends, suggest it to him then—gently. And encourage him to diversify his activities so he spends less time on Facebook.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis

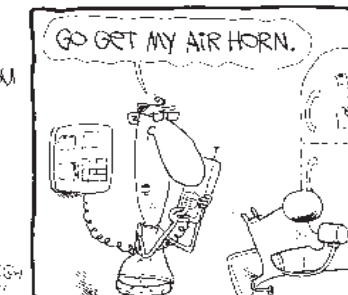
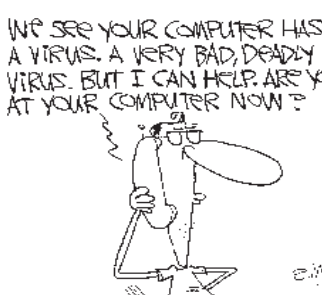
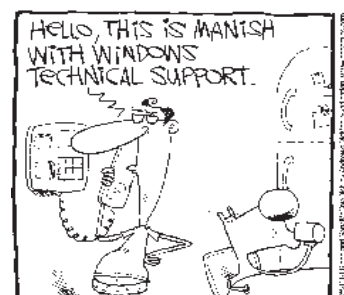
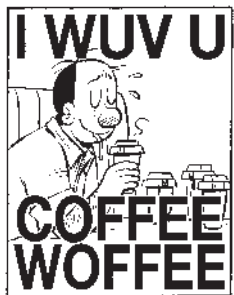


Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

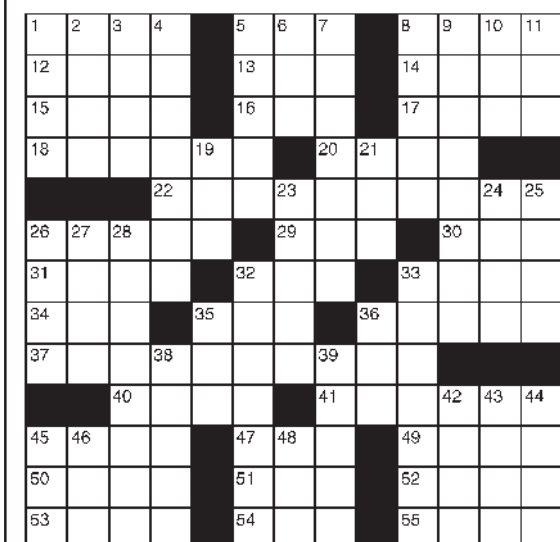
1 Basil or thyme
5 Honey holder
8 Summit
12 Winged
13 French article
14 Reddish horse
15 Actress
16 Gerund ending
17 Apple tablet
18 Pictorial
20 Online auction site
22 Pimento-stuffed salad ingredient
26 "Little Man Tate" director
29 Sony rival
30 "— who?"
31 Atop
32 Parched
33 Commotion

DOWN

34 Singer Lana —
35 Bill's partner
36 Inventor Nikola
37 Drab military uniform color
40 Body powder
41 Port city of Poland
45 Words to Brutus
47 Embrace
49 Dorothy's dog
50 Lounge
51 Sugary suffix
52 And others (Lat.)
53 Bump into
54 Bankroll
55 Poet Teasdale
DOWN
1 Millinery
2 Power co. supply
3 Scarce
4 Earn
5 Breakfast drink
6 New England cape
7 Interim government
8 Popular typeface
9 Scribes
10 Goat's cry
11 Finale
19 Rage
21 Feathery neckpiece
23 Goof
24 Bridal cover
25 Old Testament book
26 Martial art
27 Autobahn auto
28 Fictional "Doctor"
32 Pooch's bowlful
33 Legislative groups
35 Cartoon frame
36 Danson of "Cheers"
38 Bank structure
39 Urged (on)
42 — bene
43 Rating unit
44 Caffeine-rich nut
45 Stately tree
46 Sock part
48 Can. neighbor

Solution time: 24 mins.

Yesterday's answer 11-7



STUMPED?

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CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Lorde, 23; Adam DeVine, 36; David Guetta, 52; Joni Mitchell, 76.

Happy Birthday: Pay attention to detail, and make adjustments to compensate for mistakes. Live up to your expectations, dreams and desires, and refuse to let anything stand between you and the image you have in your head of where you see yourself heading. Don't let failures or disappointment discourage you from picking yourself up and striving for perfection. Your numbers are 5, 11, 24, 29, 34, 37, 45.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take inventory, and you'll separate what's valuable from what isn't. Have a garage sale or make a donation to your favorite charity. Make plans with the person or people you want to spend time with as you move forward. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Leave nothing to chance. The more willing you are to do the work required to get what you want, the less interference you'll encounter. Someone will be eager to take over or steal your ideas if you are too accommodating. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Consider what it is you want. An opportunity will surface if you take the initiative to follow a path that has merit and supports your beliefs. Check your motives and build your own fortress instead of choosing to join someone else's dream. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A partnership is favored. Express your interest and your ideas in an opportunity you come across, and you'll get the support

you need to follow through with your plan. Children and seniors will offer an innocent -- but valid -- point of view. ★★★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Personal improvements should be where you focus your time and energy. Look at what's involved and the cost of anything you want to pursue. Price match and barter if you don't want to be shortchanged. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Refuse to let a situation grow into something unmanageable. Take a practical approach, and be clear about what you are willing to do and willing to tolerate. If you want positive change to unfold, call the shots. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put more time into research, and do things right the first time. Cutting corners will leave you in a quandary that will lead to criticism. Don't count on others to do the work for you. Be transparent regarding your intentions. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Truth, honesty and doing your best matters. Refuse to be influenced by anyone or anything that will cause upset or lead to disappointment. Listen to those who have always had your back, and walk away from waste and excess. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Stick to basics, be moderate and focus on self-improvement. Step away from drama or anyone trying to drag you into something that isn't your favored choice. Stay focused and busy trying to do and be your best. ★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Intelligence, fortitude, creativity and common sense will help you reach the level of success you are striving for. Exercise your right to challenge and hold accountable those who lack the moral fiber required to be in critical positions. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Do whatever is necessary to maintain balance and integrity. Align yourself with people who are there for the benefit of mankind and looking for ways to make the world we live in a better place. Participate in order to make a difference. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Personal and emotional uncertainty will surface if you overanalyze situations or let drama take over and spread infection through you and those around you. Put the ego aside, and recognize what needs to be done. Be part of the solution, not the problem. ★★

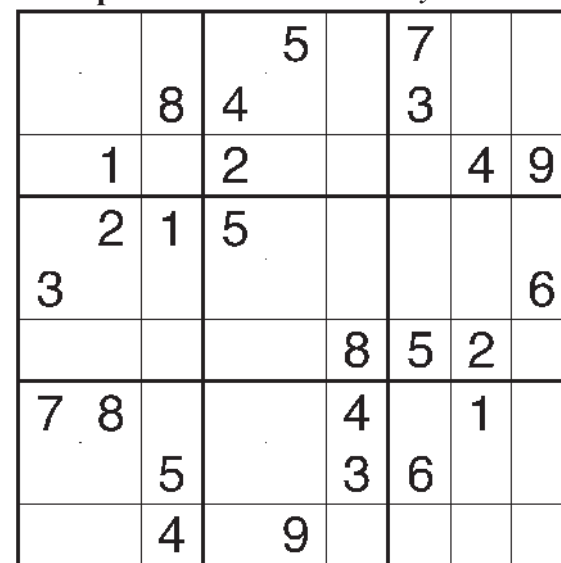
Birthday Baby: You are perceptive, engaging and thoughtful. You are creative and conscientious.

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SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



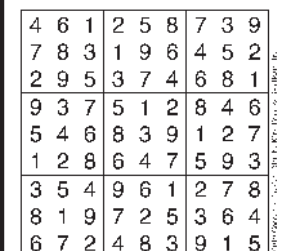
Difficulty Level ★★

11/07

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TYPES OF CLEANER

Solution: 8 letters

E S S E C N A R G A R F C K E
Y X U H A H E N H N A B E T C
C R F N T Y I E O C R E A M I
N N E O F T A U R O R R A R R
E I O T L L R P S G D O E I T
T M T E T I O B A Y F C U E
S A M H S U A W H P L H N M S
I T Y H S G M B T E A S O Y L A
S I F A C I A L E R C Z E M V
N V C T P C L S P O N G E L O
O P R O T E C T C E E O O A C
C B R N S L A C I N A T O B A
A E A E C L A Y T L I Q U I D
S L L R D A I L Y O A G E M O
P D E E S R E O N A T U R A L

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11/7

Absorb, Aloe, Avocado, Balm, Bars, Botanical, Buttery, Clay, Coconut, Consistency, Cream, Daily, Enzyme, Exfoliate, Facial, Foam, Fragrances, Gels, Gentle, Greek, Green, Healthy, Hydrate, Light, Liquid, Lotion, Melting, Micellar, Natural, Nourish, Oils, Omega, Papaya, Plant, Pores, Protect, Rice, Rich, Seed, Smooth, Sponge, Sunflower, Teas, Toner, Vitamin

Yesterday's Answer: Bright

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/s/JAMES A. ADA
SECRETARY, DPW

/s/FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

4

DRACULA

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LeBron's triple-double lifts Lakers past Bulls



CHICAGO (AP)—LeBron James and Anthony Davis watched and cheered as Kyle Kuzma powered a big fourth-quarter run for Los Angeles.

Sure, James was his usual brilliant self. But Kuzma's performance was a big deal for the rolling Lakers.

James had 30 points, 11 assists and 10 rebounds for his third consecutive triple-double, and Los Angeles rallied to beat the Chicago Bulls 118-112 on Tuesday night for its sixth straight victory.

Kuzma scored 11 of his 15 points in the final period during his third game after missing the start of the season with a right ankle injury. The 24-year-old guard got hurt while playing for USA Basketball this past summer.

"I'm getting there," Kuzma said. "It's a process, I know. It's all about being patient right now because I haven't really had much basketball time since August."

Kuzma averaged 18.7 points and 5.5 rebounds per game last season. The Lakers are hoping he can provide a viable third option alongside the leading duo of James and Davis.

"Kuz got into a rhythm, and that's what he's capable of," James said.

Los Angeles trailed by 19 before outscoring Chicago 38-19 in the fourth during the finale of a three-game trip. Kuzma began the quarter with seven straight points, part of a 16-0 run that lifted the Lakers to a 96-93 lead with 8:12 left.

James was on the bench for most of the big spurt, and Davis watched the entire run from the sideline.

"A.D. was in foul trouble. Bron was exhausted," Lakers coach Frank Vogel said. "Both of those guys needed to stay on the bench and other guys needed to step up, and they did."

Chicago lost for the fifth time in six games. Zach LaVine scored 26 points, and Wendell Carter Jr. had 11



points and 11 rebounds in his third straight double-double. Coby White and Otto Porter Jr. each scored 18 points.

"This one hurts," LaVine said. "We were beating them up until the fourth quarter. We're showing we can play with these teams. We know we're talented. We've had 10-, 12-, 16-point leads on a lot of teams, but we're losing games. It's frustrating."

The Bulls used a 16-2 run to open a 60-42 lead with 2:49 left in the first half. Carter's two foul shots made it 63-44 with 2:10 to go.

"We've got to learn to finish," coach Jim Boylen said. "They finished and we didn't."

Kuzma got some help as the Lakers rallied in the fourth. Quinn Cook scored eight of his season-high 17 in the final period. Dwight Howard had a key block on White during the big run.

James helped close it out after he checked in with 8:37 remaining. He found Davis for an alley-oop jam that made it 114-101 with 2:04 left.

Davis finished with 15 points and seven rebounds in his first game in his native

Chicago since he was acquired in a trade with New Orleans.

Celtics 119, Cavaliers 113

In Cleveland, Gordon Hayward capped a perfect night from inside the arc with the biggest basket of the game.

Hayward tied a career high with 39 points, making all 16 of his 2-point attempts, and the Boston Celtics won their fifth straight game by holding off the Cavaliers.

Hayward hit 17 of 20 shots, including one 3-pointer. He put in Kemba Walker's miss

with 22 seconds left to give Boston a five-point lead. Walker stole the inbounds pass and sank a free throw to put the game away.

The only person in the building who wasn't impressed with his perfection on 2-pointers was Hayward.

"It seems like a pointless stat to me," he said. "Tonight just felt sweet because we got the win, but I wish we could have closed out better."

Celtics coach Brad Stevens took a different point of view.

"Certainly, you always felt like he could get a bucket at any time," Stevens said. "He was aggressive going to the basket. He did a good job when guarded by big guys."

Hornets 122, Pacers 120, OT In Charlotte, Devonte Graham scored a career-high 35 points, Bismack Biyombo provided a huge spark off the bench late and the Hornets battled back from a 14-point, fourth-quarter deficit to beat Indiana.

Graham sank 2 of 3 free-throw attempts with 1.7 seconds left in overtime after drawing a foul on JaKarr Sampson, helping the Hornets win their third straight game.

Terry Rozier added 22 points and Miles Bridges had

18 for the Hornets (4-3). T.J. Warren scored 33 points on 15-of-18 shooting and Malcolm Brogdon added 31 points for the Pacers (3-4).

Hawks 108, Spurs 100

In Atlanta, Trae Young scored 28 of his 29 points in the second half, Jabari Parker added 19 points and the Hawks moved past the suspension of John Collins to snap a three-game losing streak.

Young, returning after missing one game with a right ankle sprain, put on some dazzling moves in the fourth quarter to help his team overcome the loss of Collins, who was suspended earlier in the day for 25 games without pay for a violation of the NBA's anti-drug program after testing positive for a growth hormone.

DeMar DeRozan scored 22 points, Bryn Forbes had 17 and Patty Mills 16 for the Spurs. San Antonio has dropped three of four.

Thunder 102, Magic 94

In Oklahoma City, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander scored 17 of his 24 points in the second half to lift the Thunder over Orlando.

Chris Paul added 20 points and six assists for the Thunder (3-4), who held their opponent under 100 points for the fourth time in seven games. Steven Adams had 11 points and 11 rebounds.

Aaron Gordon had 15 points and eight rebounds to lead the Magic (2-5), who have yet to reach 100 points in a game this season. Orlando had six players reach double figures in points, including Jonathan Isaac, who had 13 points and 10 rebounds for his first double-double of the season. Nikola Vucevic had 10 points and 11 rebounds.

Nuggets 109, Heat 89

In Denver, Jamal Murray scored 21 points, Will Barton and Jerami Grant had 15 each, and the Nuggets pulled away in the second half to beat Miami.

Jimmy Butler had 16 points and Kelly Olynyk 13 for Miami, which ended a three-game winning streak. It was the first time this season the Heat had failed to score at least 100 points.

The Nuggets held Miami to 36.4 percent shooting from the floor while converting 52.3 percent of their shots.

Nadal to compete in ATP Tour Finals despite injury

MADRIS—World No. 1 Rafael Nadal, recovering from injury, confirmed Tuesday he will compete at the season-ending ATP Tour Finals in London from November 10-17.

"Yesterday I had an MRI in Majorca and despite a slight strain to the left abdominal muscle I will go to London," tweeted Nadal, forced out of last week's Paris Masters by the same injury.

"Thursday or Friday I will start hitting services. The idea is to play the ATP Finals. Thanks for your support."

Nadal took over as world number one this week from Novak Djokovic who went on to win the Paris Masters.

The eight top-ranked players in the world gather in London for the ATP Tour Finals where Nadal's world number one ranking will be under threat from Djokovic.

The Serb would be sure of reclaiming the year-end top ranking should he win the tournament and Nadal fail to reach the semis.

If Nadal fails to win even one

round robin match, Djokovic could be crowned world No. 1 simply by reaching the final after two group-stage wins.

Meanwhile, Djokovic and Federer were drawn in the same group for this month's year-ending ATP Finals in London, while Nadal was drawn with defending champion Alexander Zverev.

Djokovic and Federer were joined by Austrian Dominic Thiem and Italy's Matteo Berrettini in Group Bjorn Borg, while Nadal and

Zverev were drawn alongside Greek Stefanos Tsitsipas and Russian Daniil Medvedev in Group Andre Agassi.

Federer has won the ATP Finals a record six times in his career—last winning the title in 2011—while Djokovic has won it five times. Nadal has never won the tournament, losing in the final to Federer in 2010 and Djokovic in 2013.

The ATP Finals will be played in a round robin format, with the top two players from each group advancing to the semifinals



Newton on IR, out for regular season



CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—The Panthers have placed quarterback Cam Newton on injured reserve, meaning he can't play for the rest of the regular season.

Panthers general manager Marty Hurney said in a statement Tuesday that Newton is still experiencing pain in his foot and needs to continue to rehab from the injury.

"He saw two foot specialists last week who agreed that he should continue that path prescribed by the team's medical staff, and that it likely will take significant time for the injury to fully heal," Hurney said. "We have said all along that it is impossible to put a timetable on this injury. Nobody is more frustrated with that fact than Cam."

Newton could possibly return this season—if the Panthers reach the playoffs.

According to NFL rules, Newton could hypothetically be designated to return from IR after eight weeks if the Panthers (5-3) were to qualify for the postseason, although that scenario would be a long-shot since he would not have played since Week 2.

Newton has missed the last six games while trying to rehab from a mid-foot sprain he initially sustained during the preseason.

Hurney said Newton is one of the fiercest competitors he's been around in his 20-plus years in the league.

"At this time, we have decided that the best decision to reach the goal of bringing the foot back to 100% is to place Cam on injured reserve," Hurney said.

Newton was the league's MVP in 2015, but has lost his

last eight starts dating back to last season. He was 0-2 as a starter this year and was a non-factor in the running game, carrying five times for minus-2 yards.

The Panthers have rallied to win five of their past six games behind Kyle Allen, who was an undrafted rookie in 2018.

Newton was hoping for a bounce back season after struggling with shoulder problems last season.

The injury also puts his long-term future with the team in doubt.

He has two years left on his contract, but the team could release him after this season and save \$19 million under the NFL salary cap. In that scenario Newton would only cost the team \$2 million next season in dead cap space.

Foles to start for Jaguars

Jaguars coach Doug Marrone believes quarterback Nick Foles gives the team "a better chance of winning right now."

Marrone announced Tuesday he will start Foles over rookie sensation Gardner Minshew "going forward." He made the decision during the team's bye week, saying Foles is ready to return from a broken left collarbone and will start next week at Indianapolis.

"For me, it was looking back at all the work we put in," Marrone said. "I just go back to the experience and what he's going to be able to do. I think that's going to give us the ability, a better chance of winning right now."

Marrone told both players before a team meeting. Players were not available to the media afterward. Marrone said Minshew took the news like



Carolina Panthers quarterback Cam Newton gets ready to make a pass during their game against Tampa Bay Buccaneers in the second half of an NFL football game in Charlotte, N.C., Thursday, Sept. 12, 2019.

"a competitor."

"When I say someone's a competitor and they hear

something like that, I think everyone can figure that out," Marrone said.

Foles was injured while throwing a 35-yard touchdown pass to DJ Chark on the

second series of the team's season opener. Minshew replaced him and went 4-4 as the starter, throwing for 2,285 yards, with 13 touchdowns and four interceptions. He also ran for 235 yards but has lost seven of an NFL-leading 11 fumbles.

"What he's done, he's done a great job," Marrone said. "I feel a whole different about him now than I did prior to him playing, in a very positive way. We took some things and had some discussions on things that we're going to work on going forward, which will give him the ability to be a player in this league for a long time. I really believe that."

Minshew was a sixth-round draft pick from Washington State and became a fan favorite by giving the Jaguars a chance in nearly every game.

His 1970s look—he rocks a groovy headband, an unkempt mustache, jean shorts and throwback T-shirts—is as much a part of his engaging persona as stories that range from pre-game stretching while wearing only a jock strap to trying to break his hand during college in hopes of earning an extra year of eligibility.

But most everyone expected the Jaguars to go back to Foles, a former Super Bowl MVP who signed a four-year, \$88 million contract to leave Philadelphia in March.

Marrone said he tried to ignore Minshew's performance across the pond while making his choice.

"I tried to take that out and put it as a body of work, and that's what I did," Marrone said. "I think that's important. I think emotions can run sometimes differently, so I looked at the body of work."

FRISCO, Texas (AP)—Several good things happened to Dak Prescott and the Dallas Cowboys after a black cat ran onto the field during a 37-18 victory over the New York Giants.

One of them was pretty lucky—a questionable pass interference penalty that kept a drive alive when Dallas was leading by five points early in the fourth quarter Monday night.

The call helped the NFC East-leading Cowboys (5-3) avoid another tight finish at the site of their most inexplicable loss this season, against another team they were expected to handle easily until a sluggish start made things difficult.

"We definitely have to fix that if we want to be a good team," running back Ezekiel Elliott said. "We did pick it up in the second half and finished really strong. But I'd like to see us go out there and take

Leading Cowboys can't shake slow starts

over that game early."

After a 24-22 loss to the New York Jets in the stadium the Jets share with the Giants, the Cowboys played their most complete game, a dismantling of Philadelphia, the only other threat in the division for the NFC East's defending champions.

But after the open week, Dallas returned to the place where the Jets won their only game so far this season and showed the inconsistency that marked a 3-3 start (three consecutive wins followed by three straight losses).

Prescott threw an interception on the first play from scrimmage after rookie Tony Pollard botched the fielding of the opening kick to pin Dallas deep. As soon as they took control with a TD early in the

fourth quarter, the Cowboys gave up running back Saquon Barkley's 65-yard catch.

Dallas mitigated that mistake by forcing the Giants to settle for one of their four field goals. And only after the pass interference call that led to another touchdown drive were the Cowboys finally in control again.

The first half of the Dallas schedule was heavy on also-rans. The second half isn't.

"In a lot of ways, it shows the ability to handle adversity as a group, but at the same time, you don't have to start like that," tight end Jason Witten said. "You certainly have to get that cleaned up. There's still a lot of good things. But you're right, we can't do that as we move forward."

Statistically, Prescott has al-

ways been an afterthought in four seasons with Elliott, the two-time NFL rushing champion. It's been different under first-year offensive coordinator Kellen Moore. Prescott is in the top 10 in yards passing, touchdowns and completion percentage. After losing his first two games against the Giants, Prescott has won six straight. He has 16 TD passes and one interception in that span.

Kickoff coverage and returns. Pollard's quick mistake set a bad tone, and the former Memphis player hasn't had much impact in the part of the game that got him the most attention heading into the draft. On top of that, Giants return man Cody Latimer averaged 30 yards on six returns, taking two of them to roughly midfield.

Sean Lee had his best game in a long time with second-year linebacker Leighton Vander Esch missing the first game of his career because of a neck injury suffered in the game against the Eagles.

No London move

In Los Angeles, Chargers owner Dean Spanos is emphatically denying reports that his franchise and the NFL are looking into relocating the team to London.

"We're not going to London. We're not going anywhere. We're playing in Los Angeles," Spanos said Tuesday. "This is our home, and this is where we are planning to be for a long (expletive) time. Period."

The Athletic reported Monday night that the Chargers

have been discussed by the league as a possible option to relocate to London because of the team's struggles to build a fan base in Los Angeles. The Chargers are in their third season in LA after Spanos moved the team from its longtime San Diego home, and they play in the league's smallest stadium—the 27,000-seat Dignity Health Sports Park in Carson. The Chargers will move next year to the new SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, which they will share with the Rams.

The NFL also released a statement saying there is no substance to the report about a possible Chargers move.

The statement read: "No consideration has been given to the Chargers playing anywhere other than Los Angeles at the new stadium in Hollywood Park next season and beyond."

MLB gets closer to automated strike zone



**N E W
Y O R K**—An

automated strike zone could be inching closer to becoming a reality in Major League Baseball.

In a recent appearance on MLB Network, commissioner Rob Manfred stated that the technology used for the automated strike zone was due for a large upgrade this winter and that further testing and preparation will take place during the 2020 season.

The goal? Get everyone as comfortable with the system as possible so that the MLB can comfortably implement an automated system when the “time is right.”

“Here’s our thinking on the automated strike zone: The technology exists. We have the technology,” Manfred said. “We’re actually going through a big upgrade of that piece of our technology during this offseason. I think we need to be ready to use an automated strike zone when the time is right.”

Automated strike zones were tested in the MLB-run Arizona Fall League and the independent Atlantic League during the 2019 season.

The pitch tracking software that was utilized determined if the pitch was a strike and then notified the home-plate umpire through an earpiece. Tweaks could be made along the way, but it sounds as though Manfred was pleased with most aspects from this version.

“We thought the Atlantic League was a really positive experience,” Manfred said. “Positive in the sense that it worked well a very, very large percentage of the time. When



it didn’t work, they were identifiable problems with the system, things that we can work on. I think a major kind of breakthrough with the Atlantic League deployment was the idea that you put an earpiece in the umpires and you don’t change the appearance of the game from the fan’s perspective.”

The system was met with mixed reviews from fans and players. A Giants prospect was even ejected for arguing a call

by the automated software during an AFL game.

Those against it don’t want to see the human element minimized even more in baseball. Those in favor are more interested in the calls being correct or at the very least consistent. Consistency is not something that’s afforded when a human is judging the zone.

The next logical step in the progression of the automated strike zone will be to implement it at the minor league level.

According to Manfred, that process is expected to begin in “some” minor league ballparks during the 2020 season.

“That’s why we experimented in the Atlantic League,” Manfred said. “It’s why we went to the Arizona Fall League. It’s why we’re using it in Minor League Baseball next year, in some ballparks at least.

“I think it’s incumbent upon us to see if we can get the system to the point we’re

comfortable it can work. I only would go to an automated strike zone when we were sure that it was absolutely the best it can be. Getting out there too early with it and not having it work well, that’d be a big mistake.”

When, where or how frequently the system would be utilized was not made clear in the commissioner’s comments. The expectation is that it will be brought in slowly, with the potential to expand once a certain level of comfort

AP
Washington Nationals’ Howie Kendrick hits a two-run home run against the Houston Astros during the seventh inning of Game 7 of the World Series Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2019, in Houston.

is established.

While progress is being made, it could still be several years before an automated strike zone is considered at the major-league level. But we’re obviously much closer to that moment than we thought was possible even six months ago.

Meanwhile, Cardinals manager Mike Shildt has a new three-year contract through the 2022 season.

Shildt was hired in 2018 and his initial deal ran through 2020.

At its end-of-season news conference Tuesday, St. Louis announced president of baseball operations John Mozeliak received a three-year extension through 2023. The Cardinals exercised a 2020 option on general manager Mike Girsch and gave him a two-year extension through 2022.

“What Mo and his group have accomplished since he took over in 2008 as the head of our baseball ops is pretty impressive,” Cardinals chairman Bill DeWitt Jr. said. “We’ve been in the playoffs seven times. We’ve had 12 consecutive winning seasons, two pennants, a world championship. ... We continue to have a robust farm system, which is not easy to do. When you have winning seasons, you don’t draft high. But we’ve got a very strong scouting and player development group.”



S H A N G H A I

(AP)—The question was in Chinese, so Rory McIlroy stared aimlessly until his eyes widened suddenly upon hearing two words he could understand.

Brooks Koepka.

McIlroy could only smile, and when the reporter finally finished his question, the interpreter at the HSBC Champions looked over at him and said, “Do you still need me to translate?”

The question was about the “competition” between the two players, which was accurate.

Rivalry?

That takes more time than one year—in this case, closer to three months.

McIlroy finds the topic silly, which he should, because golf has developed so many good players over the last five years that what looks like a rivalry now might be forgotten by next year, if not sooner.

This is more like flavor of the month.

Rivalries in golf require more than a great year

“You’re still talking about me, though,” McIlroy said with a laugh.

It’s important to McIlroy that he’s part of the conversation, because that’s all anyone should want. That was the message Jack Nicklaus shared with Tiger Woods when they were in South Africa for the Presidents Cup in 2003 and Woods was asking about the various rivals Nicklaus faced.

“The top of the men’s game is very equal,” McIlroy said. “We can all beat each other any given week, and to make it about two people is disrespectful to the likes of Justin Thomas or Dustin Johnson, whoever it might be. It creates a better narrative for the casual fan if it’s one guy versus another guy. But the reality is, there are 10, 15 guys that when they play their best can say they’re the best in the world.”

When the year began, McIl-

roy wasn’t part of the conversation unless it was a long one.

He was No. 8 in the world and had gone nine months without winning, being in serious contention in only a few tournaments. Koepka and Justin Rose ended last year taking turns at No. 1 in the world, and before long Johnson replaced them.

If anything, golf was a battle between Koepka and Johnson for the first half of the year—both had runner-up finishes in the Masters, and Johnson nearly rallied from a seven-shot deficit in the PGA Championship against Koepka until his 5-iron one-hopped over the 16th green at Bethpage Black.

Johnson didn’t win the last nine months of the year. Rose was No. 1 when he won at Torrey Pines. He hasn’t won since then and now is No. 8.

It’s a revolving door.

And now it’s Koepka and McIlroy, with just enough histo-

ry to feed the notion or a rivalry.

Koepka rallied to beat him at a World Golf Championships event. Four weeks later, McIlroy rallied to beat him at the Tour Championship for the FedEx Cup and said of Koepka, “He’s turned into a heck of a player over the last couple of years, and I definitely expect more Sundays like that between the both of us in the future.”

It will be months before they play in the same tournament.

McIlroy was voted PGA Tour player of the year, which featured no exit polling, margin of victory or how many players even voted.

Koepka has been No. 1 in the world since the middle of May, and he said he wasn’t looking behind him and thus didn’t consider anyone a rival. He provided more fodder—along with more clicks—by saying in an in-

terview with Agence France-Presse that in his five years on the PGA Tour, McIlroy hasn’t won a major.

And on it goes.

Jordan Spieth was at the Sony Open in Honolulu to start his year when he mentioned in a news conference how it was only a few years ago that the “Big Three” was being talked about in nearly every interview. The few reporters in the room looked around, trying to recall which three players he meant. Never mind that they were the ones who had been writing about it.

It was Spieth, McIlroy and Jason Day. Remember?

“Not one of us three has been talked about in the last couple years,” Spieth said that day. “Everyone is so quick on what’s happens. It’s today’s news.”

Spieth has gone more than two years without a win and is

No. 42 in the world. Day has gone winless in two of his last three PGA Tour seasons and is barely inside the top 30. McIlroy won once in a span of 50 starts until The Players Championship, and now he can’t seem to lose.

Spieth believes it is hard for a real rivalry to develop because there are too many good players, and because everyone likes one another.

“The game is in a good place, but it doesn’t have a Phil-Tiger,” Spieth said in Shanghai. “It doesn’t have a dominant player. Brooks has been pretty close, but as far as a decadeslong dominant player? Rory has been as close as anyone.

“Drama is always what people are searching for,” he said, “and there just isn’t a whole lot of it as far as player to player.”

The alternative is to call it what it is—two guys who have played the best golf this year.

Joeten 1, MJD earn lopsided wins

By **KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA**
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REPORTER



Joeten 1 clobbered Coca-Cola, 115-49, while MJD Construction hammered CTSI/TanHoldings 2, 126-105, in the 2018 JP World Corp. Customer Appreciation Basketball League last Saturday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Joeten 1 had the game in the bag right at the end of the first quarter after exploding for 31 points against Coca-Cola's mere 5 markers.

Patrick Rotap led Joeten 1's backbreaking assault in the first period after scoring 9 points. Chris Lilles contributed 7, Moises Jacob added 5, and Ernest Duenas, Sydney Quan, and Alex Lauron combined for 8, as Joeten 1 demolished Coca-Cola, whose 5 markers all came from Mel Capalad.

Despite enjoying a commanding 26-point lead, Joeten 1 played no let up in the second period to pull away further at halftime, 52-20. Again, Joeten 1 ran a balance offense in the second canto to pad its lead, while Coca-Cola still relied on Capalad.

When the game resumed, Joeten 1 delivered the killer blows after scoring 30 and 33 points in the third and fourth quarters.

Jacob led six Joeten 1 players in double figures after posting 25 points. Rotap finished with 21, while Lauron added 18. Lilles, Vincent Teregeyo, and Ernest Duenas registered



KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
Joeten 1's Chris Lilles, center, battles two TanHoldings 2/CTSI players for the rebound during an earlier game in the JP World caging at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

16, 13, and 12, respectively. Capalad had 34 points to pace Coca-Cola.

In another one-sided game, MJD Construction caught fire in the first half to set the stage for the rout.

MJD Construction had 30 and 33 markers in the first and second periods, as it more than doubled TanHoldings 2/CTSI's output in the first half, 63-30.

Freddie Pelisamen anchored MJD's attack in the first half after making 26 points in the opening 20 minutes of play.

After being outgunned in the first half, TanHoldings 2/CTSI tried to catch up in the third quarter, firing 46 markers. However, MJD Construction countered, registering 45 to keep its wide distance, 108-76.

The 32-point margin after three quarters was enough for

MJD Construction to ease its way to victory despite being held to 18 in the final frame.

Pelisamen top-scored for MJD Construction with his 46 points, while Mico Usi added 22. Ramsa Tenepere had 37 for TanHoldings 2/CTSI, while Lawrence Deleon Guerrero logged 32.

First Game

Joeten 1 115—Jacob 25,

Rotap 21, Lauron 18, Lilles 16, Teregeyo 13, Duenas 12, Quan 6, Tobias 4.

Coca-Cola 49—Capalad 34, Nuique 7, Estoque 6, Tammy 2.

Scoring by quarters: 31-5, 52-20, 82-34, 115-49.

Second Game

MJD Construction 126—

Pelisamen 46, Usi 22, Sahagun 19, Montano 16, Del Castillo 10, Bisana 8, Barreto 4.

TanHoldings 2/CTSI 105—Tenepere 37, Deleon Guerrero 32, Jinang 12, Malawanag 10, Buenavajo 10, Benavente 2.

Scoring by quarters: 30-14, 63-30, 108-76, 126-105.

NMC to host volleyball tournament

The Northern Marianas College Volleyball Club will hold the Thanks for Volleyball Tournament



next week and will cater to players in the 18 and over age group.

The Thanks For Volleyball Tournament will be held on Nov. 11 from 8am to 4pm at the Carolinian Utt. Public participants will be charged \$10 entree fees to play, while NMC students will pay only \$7.

The event will use the standard one court and three touches system, and each set will be a race to 25 points. The tournament is co-ed with each team (made of six players) required to have at least two female players on the court at all times.

For additional information, contact NMC Volleyball Club president Ryutaro Litulumar at Ryutaro.litulumar@my.marianas.edu. (Kimberly A. Bautista)

MATANSA

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two goals for Kanoa, while Paulynn Joyce made the other shot for the losing squad.

In the second match in the division, Matansa eased past Paire, 15-1.

Jerlyn Castillo led Matansa's demolition of Paire after firing seven goals. Lilian Podziewski and Jannah Casarino chipped in three apiece, while Brittany Wally logged two, and Jeraldine Castillo registered one.

Francesca Bucalig posted the lone goal for Paire.

DIVISION B TanHoldings 8, Kanoa 0

TanHoldings also coasted past Kanoa in the Division B game last Friday.

Audrey Castro earned three goals for the winning squad and drew a lot of help from her teammates. Catherine Barroza, Nicole Lumbad, Julie Ann Capayas, Rizza Relucio, and Aubrey Castro had one goal apiece.

CAROL

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Yeon Yang, 6-3, 7-6 (7). Lee and Mehra were scheduled to meet China's Yiming Dang and Le Yi Liu yesterday for a spot to the quarterfinal round. The Chinese duo moved to Round 2 following a 7-6, 6-1 triumph over South Koreans Hui-Gyeong Kim and Seoyoung Kim.

With Lee and Mehra winning their first round match, all but one of the eight seeded teams in the draw are accounted for. Top 2 seeds

MASTERS Paire 6, TanHoldings 1

Paire is back on track after beating TanHoldings in the first Masters Division tiff last Sunday.

Heather Taylor made a brace for Paire, helping the squad bounced back from a Week 2 loss to Matansa. Natalie Hill-Beyer, Patricia Coleman, Tanuja Edvalson, and Lindsay Davis also scored for Paire, while Victoria Camama drilled the only goal for TanHoldings.

Matansa 4, MP United 2

Matansa got win No. 2 after outclassing MP United.

Claire Gozum powered Matansa to victory after tallying three goals, while Ratree Ditwiset recorded the other goal for the winning squad. Gozum hit back-to-back goals for Matansa with her first posted in the seventh minute and the second three minutes later, while she completed the hat trick in the 40th. Ditwiset scored in the 12th minute.

Laarni Zapanta logged the pair of goals for MP United.

Priska Madelun Nugroho/Cody Wong and Bai and Ya Yi Yang eased their way to the second round, while No. 3 Zongyu Li and Jiaqi Wang, No. 4 Saki Imamura and Yeon Woo Ku, No. 5 Talia Gibson and Amy Stevens, and No. 8 Pimrada Jattavapornvanit and Kuan Yi Lee also needed only two sets to march into the second round. No. 6 Na Dong of China and Bo Young Jeon of South Korea were the only seeded players ousted early in the tournament, as they were stunned by the South Korean duo of Dayeon Back and

ITIBUS

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with people who believe in you and want you to succeed and be better, then the rest will fall into place," he added.

Itibus said the Singapore Ocean Cup was both his first international and solo race, but he has been representing the CNMI in regional events.

"This was my third time to represent the islands. In the first two races, I was part of a six-man team and we raced within Micronesia, specifically Guam and Yap," he said.

When asked about his experience in racing in Singapore, Itibus explained that it was more than he had expected.

"It was awesome to experience new water conditions that pushed me to exceed my usual limits. The best part was meeting such awesome people and making my family ties even bigger," the Public School System staff said.

Itibus's take away from the race was that there's always room for improvement and connecting with international paddlers who



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Maverick Itibus, fourth left, poses with other participants in last weekend's Singapore Ocean Cup.

share the same passion.

"It's really about connecting and spreading the love, which is something that we need more of in these days and times," he said.

Itibus also took note of the people who inspired and supported him, as he continues to improve his paddling skills.

"I have both extrinsic and

intrinsic motivators. It's just me following my passion, being better than I was last time, and of course the people who believe, support, and love me. They are my external motivators. I draw inspiration from better paddlers around the world that I follow on different platforms, because as a paddler, I want to be able to

experience those kinds of water conditions," he said.

Itibus thanked IT&E, Frank Cabrera and the 670 Rock Steady shop, Tyce Mister, Gold's Gym staff, the Marianas Visitors Authority, Rose Diaz, Irene Uy, Nicole Sablan, and Saipan Brewery for supporting his participation in the Singapore Ocean Cup.



LeBron's
triple-double
lifts Lakers
past Bulls

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Newton
on IR, out
for regular
season

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Itibus keen on inspiring local paddlers

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

After debuting in the Singapore Ocean Cup last weekend, Maverick Itibus wants to be back in the prestigious race and bring more local paddlers with him.

Itibus joined the V-1, 15.5-kilometer race at the Siloso Beach Walk and finished seventh in the single craft, rudder-less outrigger canoe competition, which he said was for his personal growth and development. He also



hopes that his participation in the off-island tournament will inspire other local paddlers and athletes to follow their passion and compete in international races like the Singapore Ocean Cup.

"We shouldn't limit ourselves just because we are from a small island or it will be hard to come up with funds," Itibus said.

The CNMI paddler completed the V-1 long course in 1:53:58, finishing ahead of United Kingdom's Claude Bailey (1:55:04), New Zealand's Shayne Petit-Smith

(1:56:465), and Singapore's Terence Chong (2:06:34). Singapore Paddle Club's James Williamson ruled the event after checking in at 1:35:40.

"Believe in yourself and always push to be better. Learn from as many people as you can, then use what works best for you. Be proud of where you're from and know that you can be just as good as the best in the world. Just follow your passion, stay true to yourself, and keep putting in the work. Surround yourself

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Maverick Itibus is seen in this file photo training for a V-1 race in the waters off Micro Beach.

Carol still in contention



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI's Carol Lee, seen here going for a return during a tournament in Japan last month, is still in contention in the 2019 Seogwipo Asia/Oceania Closed Junior Championships in Jeju, South Korea.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

World-ranked No. 128 Carol Lee survived an opening set loss to reach the third round of the 2019 Seogwipo Asia/Oceania Closed Junior Championships yesterday in Jeju, South Korea.

The CNMI player bowed to South Korea's Hwui Won Wi in the first set, 3-6, but avoided the latter's upset axe after sweeping the last two sets,

6-3, 6-1. The unranked Wi, before falling short in her bid to stun the No. 13 seed Lee, advanced to the second round following a 6-2, 6-3 triumph

over Chinese-Taipei's Chao-Yi Wang. Lee also came from a straight set win in her opening game (versus South Korean qualifier Minseo Kim, 6-4,

6-2) to move to the second round of the Grade B1 tournament.

With her pair of victories, Lee will be gunning for a quarterfinal berth in the 64-player singles draw today. The Commonwealth junior player will



ITF
World Tennis Tour
Juniors

either face wild card Seojin Oh of South Korea or No. 2 seed Zhuoxuan Bai. Oh marched into the second round after eliminating Hong Kong's Chui Kei Leung, 6-2, 6-2, while Bai also took only two sets to oust Japan's

Mei Hasegawa, 6-0, 6-3.

Meanwhile, in doubles play, Lee and India's Vipasha Mehra gained entry to the second round. The No. 7 pair outclassed the South Korean tandem of Yujin Kim and Se-

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Matansa, TanHoldings rout foes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Matansa Football Club and TanHoldings FC proved to be too much for their respective opponents, as they earned lopsided wins in Division

A of the 2019 Dove Women's Fall League last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

In the first match, TanHoldings dominated Kanoa, 9-3, behind the three goals apiece of Kaithlyn



Chavez and Allyssya Angeles. Katrina Costales contributed a pair, while Mary Joy Aniana added one.

Khristelle Itaas delivered

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

TanHoldings Football Club's Katrina Costales, left, steals the ball, as Kanoa Football Club's Pau-lynn Joyce loses her footing during their Division A game in the 2019 Dove Women's Fall League last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.